

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dramatic irony** – This occurs when the reader or audience understands more about the events of a story than a character.

*To identify dramatic irony, ask yourself what did you already know happened or was going to happen?*

**Situational irony** – This occurs when what actually happens is the opposite of what is expected or appropriate.

*To find the situational irony, ask yourself what were you expecting would happen or what did you expect it to be? If the situation is something different than what we expect would happen or is the opposite of what you might expect someone would say or do, then it is likely situational irony.*

**Verbal irony** – A character says one thing but really means the opposite. (Includes sarcasm)

*To find the verbal irony, ask yourself, what is really being said? If what the person actually says is not exactly what the person really means, you likely have verbal irony.*

**Directions:** Read the following examples of irony. Determine which of the three types of irony are being used and then explain your answer.

1. An old man turns ninety-eight. He wins the lottery and dies the next day.

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

"You've really made a mess of things!" said in congratulations to a graduate at the top of her class.

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

A group of firefighters are cooking dinner in the station during a big football game. As they are watching TV, cheering on their team, a pan catches fire and the station burns down.

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

A mom is tired of picking up her son's dirty clothes that he just drops wherever he takes them off. She says, "Would Milord please inform his humble servant when he wishes to have his clothes put in the hamper?"

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

A teen in a slasher film runs into the closet in her bedroom to hide from the crazed murderer who is in the closet awaiting her going to bed.

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Dorothy spends the entire book, *The Wizard of Oz*, trying to get back home to Kansas. Then it turns out in the end that she had the ability to go home at any time using her ruby slippers.

Type of irony: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the following examples of irony. Determine which of the three types of irony are being used and then explain your answer.

1. A mean old man ate a large meal at a restaurant. The waitress tried to provide him with excellent service, but every time she brought him a dish, he complained. First he thought that the soup was too cold when it was hot. Then he said that his steak was dry and chewy, when it was moist and succulent. Then he complained that one of her blonde hairs was in his mashed potatoes, but the hair was actually grey like his own. She remained patient and continued to try to help him until the end of the meal, when he left her a quarter for a tip. She replied on his way out, "Thank you for the generous tip, Mister."

Which type of irony is used? _____ Explain your answer: _____ _____ _____ _____
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2. Tom has always liked Lucy, but Lucy has always thought Tom was annoying and unattractive. One day, Lucy comes home to find an eviction notice on her door. Apparently, her roommate had been spending the rent money that Lucy was giving her on other things. Lucy only has 24 hours to get all her stuff over to her mom's house, and Lucy doesn't even have a car. But Tom has a truck. So Lucy calls up Tom and asks him how he's doing. She tells him that she's always thought he was funny, and that they should hang out sometime. Tom thinks that Lucy has finally come around is beginning to like her. He also thinks that his jokes are funny because she is laughing after everything that he says.

Which type of irony is used? _____ Explain your answer: _____ _____ _____ _____
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3. The rapper Eminem is well-known for his song writing ability, but he is equally known for his shockingly profane and obscene lyrical content. Eminem has made a fortune selling his curse filled songs to millions of children around the world. But, on a 60 Minutes interview, Eminem claimed that there was no swearing in his own home and that his children were not allowed to play music with curse words, including his own tracks.

Which type of irony is used? _____ Explain your answer: _____ _____ _____ _____
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