

SATIRE

SUMMARY:

- ⦿ 30-minute long presentation increasing media literacy about satire.
- ⦿ How to identify satire to reduce the spread of misinformation
- ⦿ Intended audience: College students ages 18-25 who are likely to encounter and share satirical news via social media and for academic purposes.

juvenalian
oxymoron
analogy
satire
sarcasm
horatian
menippean
exaggeration
parody

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REQUIRED MATERIALS	3
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	3
TIME NEEDED	3
GLOSSARY	4
LESSON PLAN	5
CONCLUDING THOUGHTS	9

PREPARATION

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- ⦿ Internet access
- ⦿ A technological device such as a laptop, phone, etc.
- ⦿ Link to Prezi
- ⦿ Link to Quizziz



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- ⦿ Analyze the interaction between satire and current events.
- ⦿ Identify satirical sources.
- ⦿ Identify satirical elements.
- ⦿ Differentiate satirical material from non-satirical material

TIME NEEDED: 30 MINUTES



GLOSSARY

Analogy: comparison of two things in order to explain.

Exaggeration: hyperbole and/or understatement; to enlarge, increase, or represent something beyond normal bounds so that it becomes ridiculous, and its faults can be seen.

Horatian Satire: This type of satire makes fun of things in a soft or even loving manner. It is usually a form of parody that is intended to make people think.

Juvenalian Satire: This is the strongest type of satire as it attacks a single target in a vicious way. The most usual form of this satire is political satire, which attacks politicians and pundits.

Juxtaposition: Place's things of unequal importance side by side. It brings all the things down to the lowest level of importance on the list. For example, if a guy says his important subjects in school include Calculus, Computer Science, Physics, and girl-watching, he has managed to take away some of the importance of the first three.

Menippean Satire: This type of satire is similar in harshness to Juvenalian, but it attacks a more general target. An example is religious satire, which attacks sacred figures or religious beliefs.

Parody: Imitates the techniques and style of some person, place, or thing. Parody is used for mocking or mocking its idea of the person, place, or thing. Monty Python is an example of parody.

Oxymoron: contradictory words side by side. For example, bittersweet.

Satire: the use of humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues.

Sarcasm: praise to personally mock/insult someone; a form of verbal irony

LESSON PLAN

Trainer tip: the lesson follows a Prezi to facilitate discussion. If you choose to utilize the visual aid, the link is below.

SATIRE, SATIRE, SATIRE!

PRETEST: (approximately 5 minutes):

Activity: Quizziz Satirical Trivia Pretest

Quizizz opening poll will gauge participants' benchmark understanding of satire before the lesson.

Satirical Trivia Pretest

UNIT 1: WHAT IS SATIRE? (approximately 7 minutes)

PowerPoint slides:

Talking points:

- ⌘ What is satire?
- ⌘ Vocabulary using glossary definitions.
 - Explain how to identify the three types of satire: Horatian, Menippean, Juvenalian.

UNIT 2: BACKGROUND AND NEED (approximately 10 minutes)

2.A: Discuss Background

PowerPoint Slides:

Talking points:

- ⌘ There are several known satirical news sites.
 - ⌘ The Onion, The Babylon Bee, The Daily Mash, National Report, etc.
- ⌘ There are several known satirical television programs.
 - ⌘ Daily Show with Trevor Noah, SNL, Late Night with Seth Meyers, and Last Week Tonight with John Oliver

2.B: Discuss Need

PowerPoint Slides:

Talking points:

- ✿ Satire can be an effective device and encourage critical thinking.
 - ✿ Political satire causes younger generations to participate in politics.
 - ✿ Ability to offend and make the audience tickle at the same time.
- ✿ Certain generations are more susceptible to trusting and sharing satirical information.
 - ✿ Baby Boomers are likely to share satirical news on FB.
 - ✿ Gen Z is less trusting of information on the Internet and more likely to fact-check.

Activity: Why people confuse satire with real news

PowerPoint Slides:

Show two quotes side-by-side, both of similar news stories, one satire, one real news for reference. The topic for both articles is unemployment initiatives during Obama's administration.

Talking points:

- ✿ Satire mimics the tone of real news
- ✿ Knowing that the story is satirical requires an in-depth understanding of the story at hand (background, context)
- ✿ Satirical articles are not labeled as satirical – humans and trust bias
- ✿ When our biases align with the story, we are likely to believe it (confirmation bias)

Attachments of articles:

[CNN Politics article \(non-satirical\)](#)

The Onion article (satirical)

Trainer tip: Time crunch? Only use a few paragraphs from each article, and try to have participants distinguish between the satirical and non-satirical source. Ask participants which satirical devices suggest which source is satirical.

CONCLUSION: POST-TEST AND ANSWER EXPLANATION

(approximately 8 minutes)

Activity: Quizziz Satirical Trivia Post-Test

Quizizz's post-lesson poll will gauge participants' growth of satire knowledge.

Satirical Trivia Post-Test

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS:

PowerPoint Slides:

Talking points:

- ✿ What to look for when spotting satire: humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule used to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues
- ✿ 3 different types of satire are juvenalian, horatian, meippian
- ✿ Understand literary devices like exaggeration and analogy are commonly used in satirical sources
- ✿ Common sources of satirical news are The Onion, The Daily Show
- ✿ Baby boomers are more likely than Gen Z to trust satirical information without fact-checking
- ✿ People believe satire because:
 - Satire mimics the tone of real news
 - Knowing that the story is satirical requires an in-depth understanding of the story at hand (background, context)
 - Satirical articles are not labeled as satirical – humans and trust bias

TRAINER TIP:

TAKE THE TIME TO EXPLAIN THE RIGHT AND WRONG ANSWERS FOR THE POST-TEST, RATHER THAN THE PRETEST, IN ORDER TO HELP PARTICIPANTS RETAIN THE INFORMATION BETTER.

- When our biases align with the story, we are likely to believe it (confirmation bias)

REFERENCES

Doherty, J. & Isodore, C. (2009, May 8). *Obama announces education help for unemployed.*

CNN Politics.

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/05/08/obama.unemployment/index.html>

MasterClass. (2020, November 8). *What is satire? How to use satire in literature, pop culture and politics – Plus tips on using satire in writing.* Master Class.

<https://www.masterclass.com/articles/what-is-satire-how-to-use-satire-in-literature-pop-culture-and-politics-plus-tips-on-using-satire-in-writing>

Report: Unemployment high because people keep blowing their job interviews. (2010, July 29).

The Onion.

<https://www.theonion.com/report-unemployment-high-because-people-keep-blowing-t-1819571663>

Satire. (n.d.). Literary Devices. Retrieved April 20, 2021. <https://literarydevices.net/satire/>

Too many people think satirical news is real. (2019, August 16). The Conversation.

<https://theconversation.com/too-many-people-think-satirical-news-is-real-121666>