

# Irony & Satire

## Persuasive Opinion Newspaper Article

Year 10 English | 700 words | Due Date: 7 July 2023

**Learning Intention:** Students show an understanding of satire, irony and stereotypes and can use these techniques in a sophisticated way to persuade an audience. They show appreciation of issues that impacting society. Students show the ability to argue and support arguments with evidence using unfamiliar styles of writing.

**YOUR TASK:** Choose a problem or issue – e.g. political, social, environmental – that faces society today. Write a persuasive newspaper article that uses satire to convince the audience that one side is right, and the other side is ridiculous!

Your article must include the following:

- A satirical cartoon that you have drawn yourself, which demonstrates your perspective on the issue
- Use of stereotypes, irony, exaggeration, and ridicule to make your point
- Use of evidence, including quotations from witnesses or people involved
- Use of other persuasive techniques (e.g. hook, rhetorical questions, emotive words with connotations, inclusive language, alliteration, figurative language, call to action)
- Correct newspaper article style & layout – e.g. headline, subheading, columns, date & author name, orientation details (who, what, when, where) in first paragraph

### Steps:

1. Do some research, decide on a topic, and choose which side you will argue in your article.
2. Draw your satirical cartoon (doesn't have to be amazingly artistic, can be stick figures, but must be drawn by you)
3. Brainstorm the stereotypes related to your issue – what do you think people would assume based on generalisations about the types of people who are involved in this topic? Come up with some ways to exaggerate or subvert these stereotypes.
4. Plan your argument: organise your research into 2-3 main points, each supported by evidence. Use PEEL to help you structure your paragraphs.
5. Use a template to help with the newspaper layout
6. Proofread – check for mistakes, check for persuasive techniques & add any you missed

## Topic Ideas...

- Climate change and/or depletion of natural resources
  - Cybersecurity and data privacy
  - Political corruption
  - Economic inequality- widening gap between rich & poor
  - Discrimination & social injustice (based on ethnicity, gender, religion,
- wealth/class)- bias, unequal treatment, fewer opportunities
  - Refugee crisis
  - Global health crisis- vulnerability of global health systems (recently highlighted by covid)
  - Gun control in USA
  - Social media & misinformation

## Marking Rubric

A = WOW!   B = Meets expectations well   C = Satisfactory   D = On the way

Performance Standard	A	B	C	D
<b>Satire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows a clear understanding of satire, irony, and stereotypes</li> <li>• Uses these features correctly and effectively in both the article and the cartoon</li> </ul>				
<b>Persuasive Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective use of persuasive techniques</li> <li>• Convincing argument with 2 clear sides – both are effectively explained</li> <li>• Evidence used – multiple well-chosen examples and quotes about the issue under discussion are used and are extremely helpful in supporting the argument</li> </ul>				
<b>Understanding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows depth of understanding of the issue being satirised and its impact or relevance to society</li> <li>• Can clearly articulate what the issue means and why it is important</li> </ul>				
<b>Layout</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct newspaper format features (headline &amp; subheading, columns, orientation details, etc)</li> <li>• Layout is clear and effective</li> <li>• Proofread &amp; edited with few or no mistakes</li> </ul>				