

Irony vs. Satire vs. Sarcasm

At times, people describe situations or events as ironic but they also say things in a satirical or sarcastic manner. This often causes confusion among people on whether to use irony, satire, or sarcasm to describe a particular statement or situation. Today, we will clarify the differences between these three words to keep your writing free from confusing points.

The term irony is used as a noun referring to “the expression of one’s meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect” or “a state of affairs or an event that seems deliberately contrary to what one expects and is often amusing as a result.”

The irony! Jeremy McConnell sentenced to work in charity shop after claiming woman’s attractiveness dropped because she visited one

[Mirror](#)

The Irony Of Salman Khan Inaugurating A Driving School Hasn’t Been Lost On Twitter

[NDTV](#)

Melania Trump’s Anti-Bullying Speech at the UN Prompts Cries of Irony

[Fortune](#)

Meanwhile, the noun sarcasm refers to “a sharp and often satirical or ironic utterance designed to cut or give pain.”

9 Completely Underrated Benefits of Being the Sarcastic One in the Room

[Reader’s Digest](#)

Randy Newman to bring sarcasm, sentiment to Troy

[The Daily Gazette](#)

Viral: Online taxi driver shares video of sarcasm-fueled argument with passenger,

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gets fired

[Coconuts](#)

On the other hand, satire is used as a noun meaning “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.”

Kingsman: The Golden Circle Is More Farce Than Satire

[The Atlantic](#)

How satire got a cartoonist fired from a Jewish newspaper

[The Times of Israel](#)

McCarthy: Making political satire great again

[Minnesota Daily](#)

Now that we’ve distinguished between irony, sarcasm, and satire, you will be able to integrate these words in your writing more easily.