

Lesson #5: Making Claims about Humor

Please complete the following first. Lesson #5 is this Pear Deck. When you finish with this Pear Deck, click on Lesson #6 in Google Classroom.

1

Be in a comfortable place where you are able to listen to video & read.

2

Think about what you have learned about humor so far.

3

In Pear Deck answer, **“What is one thing that you have learned about humor so far?”**



Students, write your response!



Stress Check



I'm in a
good space
and can
focus

Something
is bothering
me, but I
can still
focus



I can't
manage my
emotions or
behaviors
right now



Students, drag the icon!

Students, it's time to stop reading humorous fiction and start considering the pros and cons of humor to form claims. We will be reading a nonfiction text to do this.

1

Watch Ms. Wigley's video lesson about making claims (next slide.)

2

Read the article posted in the slides & respond to the questions along the way.



3

Complete the Parlay Ideas discussion task & move to Lesson #6 on Google Classroom.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide

Watch Ms. Wigley's two videos.



What
happened
to the
cat?

Video #1: Welcome & Learning Targets.
Watch me first.

Reasoning

A reasoning is your **analysis** of the **evidence**.

You analyze the evidence by **connecting** it to the **claim**.

Sample Reasoning:

Having 17 National Championship trophies clearly proves that the University of Alabama has the greatest college football program of all-time. Winning the National Championship means that the Crimson Tide were the best in all of college football those seasons. In comparison, the team with the second most National Championships in football only has 11.

Why is this a reason? Because it shows how the evidence is tied to the claim.



Video #2: Claims, Evidence, & Reasoning Lesson
Video. Watch me second. Optional: If you want extra
help/access to the slideshow in the video, [click here](#).



Students, follow the instructions on the slide

Read the following article from *Psychology Today* (October 2014)

Pg. 1 of Article

Humor is a difficult to define concept. The most basic definition of humor is that it is the tendency of an experience to provide amusement, oftentimes resulting in laughter, although not always. Humor is categorized as a universal human trait. Responses to humor are simply a part of human behavior. It is part natural and part influenced by the environment you are born and raised into on this Earth. This means that what constitutes "humorous" in one culture might not be humorous for another (Raskin 2).

Some modern examples of humor include the use of memes in politics as well as jokes. While humor is generally considered to be a simple and genuinely beneficial occurrence, it is actually fairly complex, with a number of effects on the human mind. It also has a few drawbacks that make humor something of a double-edged sword, especially around strangers.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide

Explain

After reading the first page of this article, do you think that this is a trustworthy source to use for research? How do you know?



Pear Deck



Students, write your response!



Pear Deck Interactive Slide
Do not remove this bar

Read the following article from *Psychology Today* (October 2014)

In terms of the effects of humor on the human body: there are many. For starters, humor, studies have shown, has positive effects on in human's immune systems, especially children (Martin 317). This works by altering the brain-immune system communication channels, and, specifically, negative emotions, such as depression, anger, and fear, can adversely affect it, while humor generally improves immunity (Martin 317).

Humor also has a large number of miscellaneous effects on an individual, with these effects differing from person to person. For example, one study in Japan showed that humor reduced allergic reactions in patients, while another showed that humor causes an increase in certain molecules in the mouth that help to fight bacteria and the like from entering the body (Martin 320). While the actual effects from person to person are probably not very significant, they nevertheless demonstrate that humor, which is a decidedly abstract concept, can have a profound impact on the human body, which is, of course, physical.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide



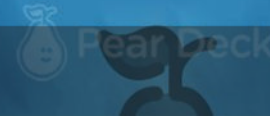


I observe...

Cite evidence of one advantage of using humor mentioned in the article. Remember to include the MLA citation at the end of your response (*Psychology Today* 6).



Students, write your response!



Pear Deck Interactive Slide
Do not remove this bar

Read the following article from *Psychology Today*.

Pg. 3 of Article

In terms of advantages to humor, the positives of humor are well-documented, and it is generally agreed among researchers that humor, especially when it involves laughing, is extremely healthy. First, laughter, a common side effect of humor, has a number of health benefits, especially in children.

For children, laughter has a number of psychological effects. It causes the child laughing as well as those around him or her to be more relaxed, and humor, for children, is instrumental in knocking down walls of anger, alienation, and frustration (Patterson 73).

This gives these same children an advantage when dealing with social situations, or family situations that may be difficult for a child to cope with, like divorce. They will be generally be happier and have a more positive disposition, which helps for children for whom social contact can be difficult. These same concepts carry over to adults as well, and help to demonstrate how helpful even side effects of humor can be. For example, humor works extremely well as a deterrent for unhappiness and, especially, disappointment: two harsh realities for those living as adults in the modern world (Patterson 70).

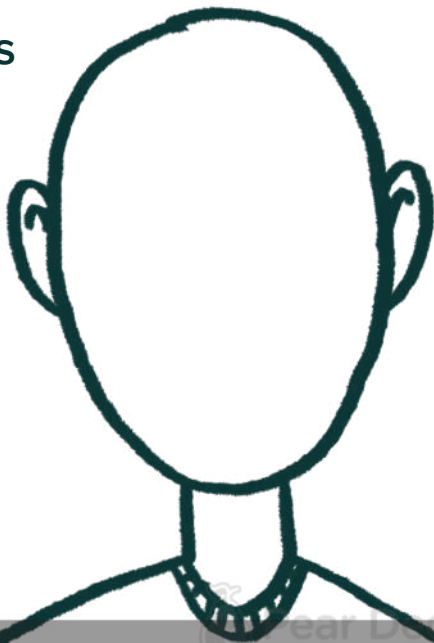


Students, follow the instructions on the slide

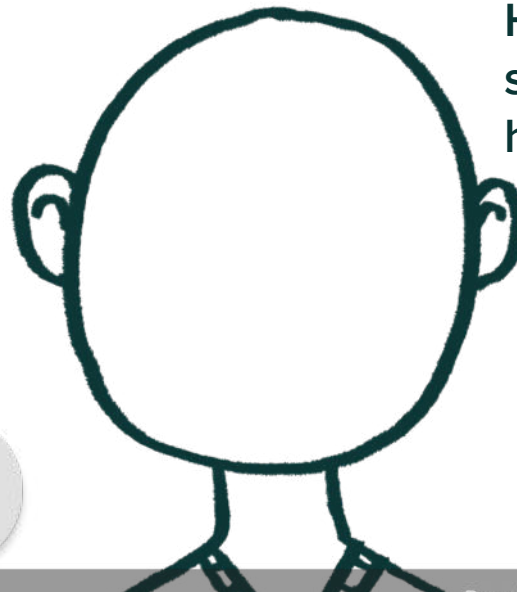


Perspective - After reading pg. 3 of the article, make 2 claims about the differing viewpoints.

How an adult sees/uses humor?



How a kid sees/uses humor?



Students, write your response!

Read the following article from *Psychology Today*.

Pg. 4 of Article

This is not to say that humor is some sort of magical cure-all for any ailment. It actually has a few disadvantages, some of them serious (although not serious enough to consider humor as dangerous or not worthwhile). The social stigma that arises as a result of humor in certain situations is a serious disadvantage to humor, and can, in certain situations, even be the difference between life and death. That is to say, one of the most serious disadvantages of humor is that it can promote distrust among two or more parties who are unsure of one another's intentions. That is to say,

"...using humor in stressful discussions...can cause distrust between members, including suspicions about the initiator's dedication or motivation" (Dziegielewski 75).

On the more physical side of things, laughter has been linked by studies to increases in blood pressure, which, in turn leads to an increased risk of heart attack, anxiety, and other heart-related issues (Fry 49). However, it should be noted that laughter does, in general, lead to decreased risk of these heart issues, but it is, nevertheless, possible for laughter to lead to blood pressure and heart problems if performed in excess.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide



I wonder...



What might be one more disadvantage of using humor?
Challenge: Try to provide evidence NOT mentioned in the article.



Students, write your response!

Read the following article from *Psychology Today*.

Pg. 5 of Article

Thankfully, the disadvantages of humor and, subsequently, laughter are few, and mainly revolve around the fact that utilizing humor or, even worse, laughter at the wrong time can lead to some unintended consequences.

As studies continue to show, humor is a beneficial part of humanity as a whole. It has a large number of well-documented health benefits, and generally gives those who laugh or experience humor a feeling of well-being and happiness. The only caution that comes with humor is that it should be exercised with caution and, if possible, in moderation, as laughing too much can cause a human to, quite literally, die laughing.

Risks aside, humor is a gift exclusive to humans that allows them to grasp concepts in ironic or unexpected ways, which prompts an automatic response (laughter). The prevailing notion regarding humor is that "a laugh a day keeps the doctor away," and that notion appears to be accurate even today, as more and more research touts the benefits of laughter. It is simply important to, like all positive things, utilize it in moderation.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide

Interpret

What claim do you think the author is trying to convey in this article?

Paste image or passage here



Students, write your response!



Pear Deck Interactive Slide
Do not remove this bar

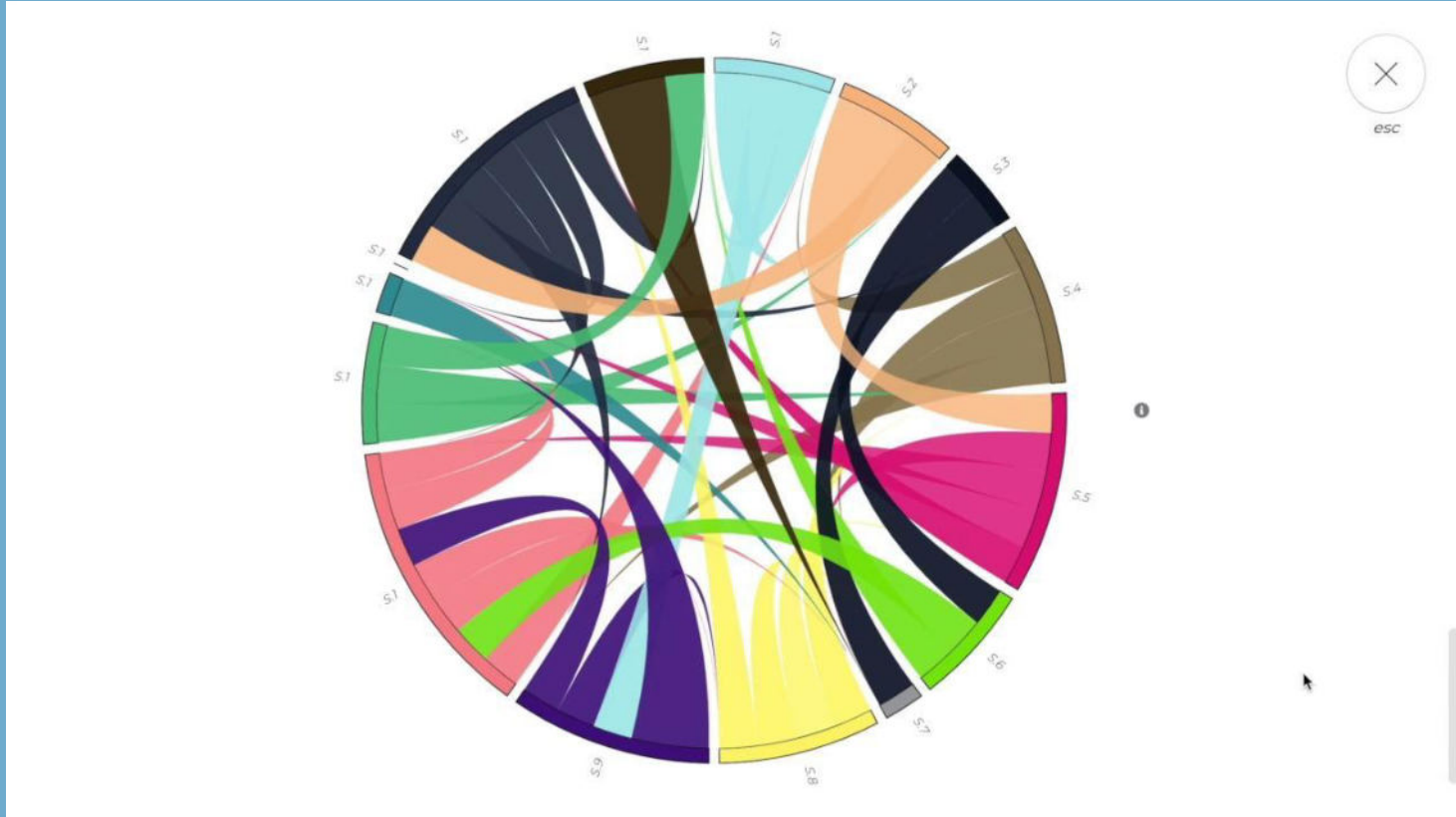
Drag your dot to indicate whether you agree or disagree with the author's claim that humor is mostly a gift.



Students, drag the icon!



To finish this lesson, you are going to be using an online discussion program called Parlay Ideas. Watch the video below for how to use the website.



Students, follow the instructions on the slide

For this activity you will...

Step One

Go to [Parlay Ideas](#). You can use this [link](#) OR go to the website & enter this class code:

Step Two

Respond to the questions on the website.

Step Three

Reply to **at least one peer** on the Parlay Ideas site by the end of the week. If you need help with Parlay Ideas, see the next slide. If it does not help, email Ms. Wigley.

Once you finish with your Parlay Ideas response, you can move to Lesson #6 on Google Classroom. Make sure you do a peer reply on Parlay Ideas to at least one person in your class by the end of the week.



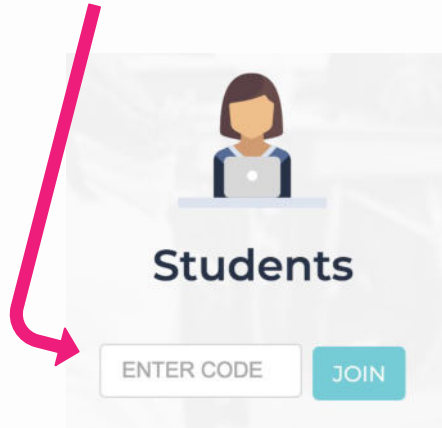
SIGNING IN TO PARLAY

Step 1

Go to www.parlayideas.com

Step 2

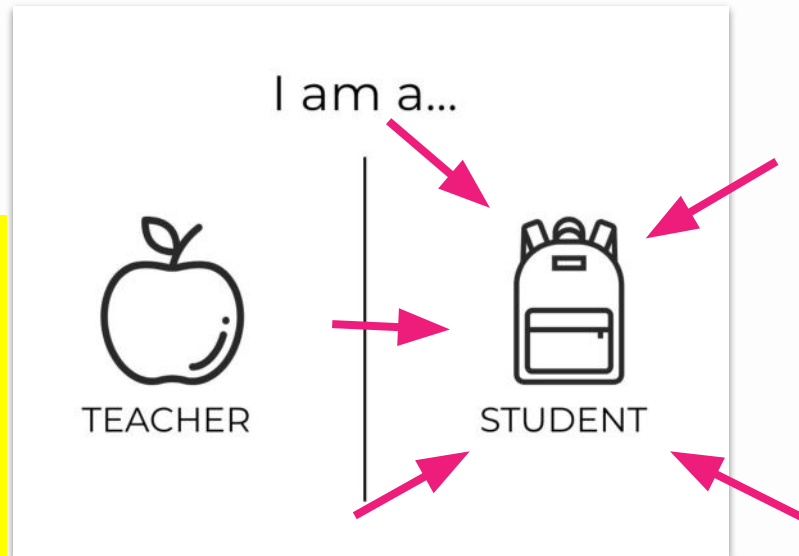
Enter the join code



Class Code:

Step 3

Create a “Student” account if you don’t already have an account.



MOVE TO [LESSON #6](#) on GOOGLE
CLASSROOM

