

Satire—The most important
thing you will EVER learn.

Definition

~noun

- the use of irony, sarcasm, ridicule, or the like, in exposing, denouncing, or deriding vice, folly, etc.

How do we express such ideas?

Through the use of:

1. Exaggeration
2. Incongruity
3. Reversal
4. Parody

Exaggeration:

- to enlarge, increase, or represent something beyond normal bounds so that it becomes ridiculous
- (sort of like hyperbole)
 - If you don't stop whispering, my ears are going to explode!!!!!!



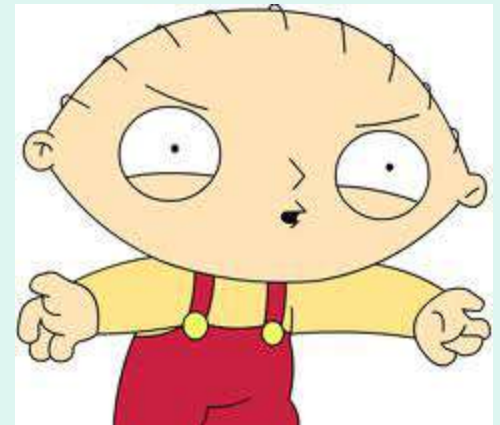
Incongruity

- to present things that are out of place or are absurd in relation to surroundings
 - After donating 11 boxes of Thin Mints to the nursing home, Girl Scout troop #37 robbed the local bank, hijacked a plane, and escaped to Mexico.



Reversal

- to present in the opposite of normal order
 - Stewie from *Family Guy* is often a diabolical superior to his family.
 - He is the youngest, but the most intelligent and evil.

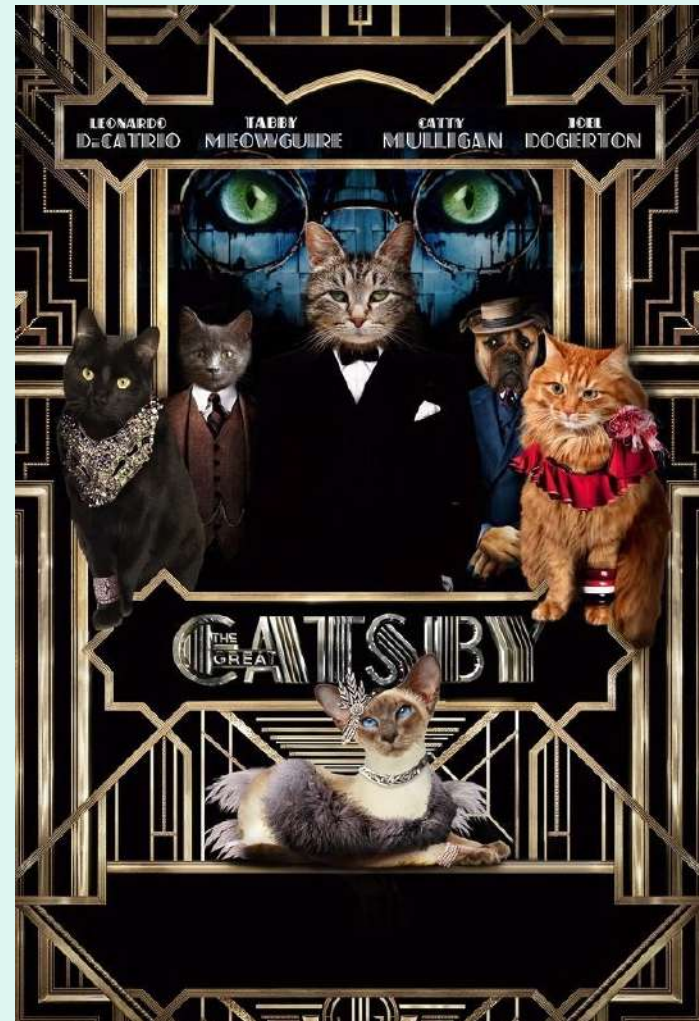
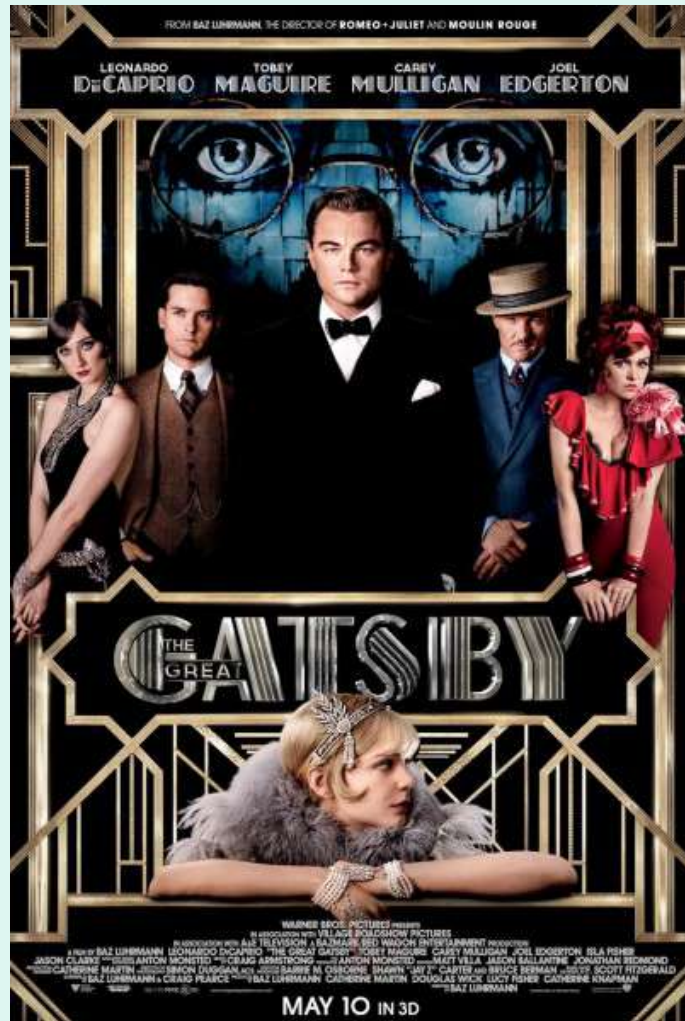


Parody

- to imitate the techniques and/or style of some person, place, or thing



Parody continued



What is the purpose of satire?

How do the following examples use satire? Are they successful?

1. Humane Society commercial:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1Xh-tZrzwk>

2. HSUS commercial:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTrhQd9GHIE>

3. FWP:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vN2WzQzxuoA>

4. Apple introduces The Wheel:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BnLbv6QYcA&feature=relmfu>

5. Multiple Stab Wounds May Be Harmful to Monkeys:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQ7J7UjsRgg&feature=relmfu>

6. Web Crash of 2007:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvpuT3aoypE>

Homework:

- As you read and annotate Mark Twain's essay "On the Damned Human Race" consider how he uses satire.
 - Who is he ridiculing?
 - Is the essay effective?