

# Satire

- In your groups, define **satire**.
- Do you regularly enjoy satire? What medium (print, tv, internet, film, etc.)? Examples?



# Satire

*Noun.* A literary convention which blends humor with criticism for the purpose of instruction or the improvement of humanity

*Adj: Satirical*

*Verb: Satirize*





# Satire We'll Analyze

- ◆ Cervantes' *Don Quixote* (1605)
- ◆ Modern satire from youtube, The Onion, etc.
- ◆ Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal" (1729)
  - Our own modest proposals
- ◆ *Various satirical articles and political cartoons*



# Satire: ingredients

- ◆ **Humor**

- ◆ **Criticism**, either general criticism of humanity or human nature or specific criticism of an individual or group.

- ◆ Some kind of **moral voice**
  - simply mocking or criticism is not “satire.”



# Satirical Tone

- ◆ Hyperbole

- ◆ Ironic

  - Sarcasm: Verbal Irony

- ◆ Opposed to hypocrisy

- ◆ More than a little bit prone to references to things society finds taboo or disgusting (bodily functions, sexuality, etc.)



# Satirical Mediums

## ◆ Writing

- Fiction

- Essays

- Fake news—*if done on purpose and ironically*

## ◆ Film

## ◆ Visual Art

- Political Cartoons

- Caricatures



## A Distinction for the Pedants:

- ◆ Horatian Satire: good-natured criticism
  - Horatian after Horace
- ◆ Juvenalian: bitterly cynical denunciation
  - Juvenalian after Juvenal





Satirical Thanksgiving Headlines:

What is being mocked in each?

- ◆ Americans Enjoying Thanksgiving Tradition of Sitting Around Airport
- ◆ Obama Pardons Single Turkey While Ignoring Larger Turkey Genocide
- ◆ Biden Pardons Single Yam in Vice Presidential Thanksgiving Ritual






# #satire

- ◆ Is this an example of Horatian or Juvenalian satire? Evidence?
- ◆ What contributes to the satirical tone of the piece?



# Teenage *Affluenza* in Australia

- What is being satirized?
  - Tools the satirist uses?
- What about the world does the satirist want to change?



Literary conventions authors use to create a satirical tone:

- ◆ Irony
- ◆ Hyperbole/Diminutization
- ◆ Reversal
- ◆ Parody
- ◆ Caricature
- ◆ Utopianism/Dystopianism
- ◆ Others ...



# Example: Bic Pens for Women

- ◆ Amazon Reviews

- ◆ *Ellen* clip

- ◆ Are these reviews Horatian or Juvenalian satire?

- ◆ What underlying value does this satirical example convey?



## BIC Velocity Bold Retractable Ball Pen, Bold Point (1.6mm), Black, 2-Count

by BIC

\$4<sup>48</sup> ✓prime

FREE Shipping on eligible orders

More Buying Choices

\$0.99 (16 new offers)

★★★★☆ ▾ 1,445

### Product Features

... Pack of 2 Pen features Easy-Glide System, BIC's exclusive ink technology ...



## BIC For Her Retractable Ball Pen, Medium Point, 1.0 mm, Black Ink, 2 Count (FHAP21-Black)

by BIC

\$10<sup>77</sup> ✓prime

FREE Shipping on eligible orders

More Buying Choices

\$10.77 (8 new offers)

★★★★☆ ▾ 299

### Product Description

... The BIC For Her is a pen designed just for her. It is a sleek pen ...

# 'Look like a girl ... think like a man': Bic causes outrage on national women's day

Pen manufacturer accused of sexism over its pink 'for her' biros in 2012 causes fresh outrage over South Africa women's day advertisement

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Look like a girl  
Act like a lady  
Think like a man  
Work like a boss

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## Review

- ◆ What is satire?
  - Ingredients in satire?
  - Tools of the satirist?
  - Satirical tone?
  - Artistic Mediums?