

**Irony** is the contrast between what is expected and what actually exists or happens. Writers use three types of irony:

- **situational irony**—the contrast between what a character or the reader expects and what actually happens
- **verbal irony**, or sarcasm—the contrast between what someone says and what he or she means
- **dramatic irony**—the contrast between what a character knows and what the reader or audience knows

Use a chart like the one below to explore and categorize examples of irony.

**Title:**

**Author:**

What Is Expected	What Happens	Type of Irony