

Name or Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Commonly Used Satiric Devices

Device	Definition	Example	Personal Example	Example from Swift (include line number)
Hyperbole	A gross overstatement; an extreme exaggeration	"I've told you a million times not to do that."		
Invective	Speech that may be directed toward an individual, cause, idea, or system that attacks or denounces it	When politicians cut funding for preschool programs, it's because they really value all forms of education.		
Inversion	A reversal of order, form, or another relationship	We know Oliver is smart because he always scores in the bottom 10 percent on his standardized tests.		
Irony	A literary device where what is stated is often the opposite of what is meant	"It's really unfair of me to engage you in a battle of wits when you're only half armed."		
Sarcasm	Sneering disapproval often expressed as praise; i.e., someone who falls may be praised for his gracefulness	When the nervous freshman dropped his lunch tray, the seniors at a nearby table gave him a standing ovation and yelled, "Way to go, Grace."		
Satire	Literary art form that ridicules human folly or vice hoping to correct it	Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update; Swift's Gulliver's Travels, Pope's "The Rape of the Lock," Orwell's Animal Farm; editorial/political cartoons		Swift's "A Modest Proposal"
Understatement	Speech that deliberately minimizes a situation, often for comic effect	"Let's send one bag of rice; that will help all of those starving Sudanese."		