

irony

['aɪ(ə)rəni] *n*

ирония; насмешка

the irony of fate - ирония судьбы

life's ironies - капризы /превратности/ судьбы

dramatic /tragic/ irony - скрытая ирония (*недоступная тем, против кого она направлена*)

in irony - насмешливо, в насмешку; шутливо

◇ Socratic irony - сократическая ирония, сократический метод ведения спора

II

['aɪəni] *a*

железный; железистый; похожий на железо

irony chains - железные цепи

irony particles - частицы с примесью железа

irony

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

irony [irony ironies] *BrE* ['aɪrəni] ^m *NAmE* ['aɪrəni] ^m **noun** (pl. **ironies**)

1. **uncountable, countable** the amusing or strange aspect of a situation that is very different from what you expect; a situation like this

• **The irony is that** when he finally got the job, he discovered he didn't like it.

• It was one of life's little ironies.

2. **uncountable** the use of words that say the opposite of what you really mean, often as a joke and with a tone of voice that shows this

• 'England is famous for its food,' she said with **heavy irony** .

• There was a note of irony in his voice.

• She said it without a **hint/trace of irony** .

Word Origin:

early 16th cent. (also denoting irony in the Socratic sense): via Latin from Greek *eirōneia* 'simulated ignorance', from *eirōn* 'dissembler'.

Example Bank:

- He thanked us all without a touch of irony.
- It is a nice irony that the Minister of Transport missed the meeting because her train was delayed.
- It is a nice irony that the rivalry among popes was solved by their ancient rival, the Holy Roman Emperor.
- She congratulated him with gentle irony.
- She tried to ignore the heavy irony in his voice.
- The final irony was that he became Minister of Education having left school at 12.
- The ultimate irony is that the revolution, rather than bringing freedom, actually ended it completely.
- There is a certain irony in the situation.
- 'England is famous for its food,' she said with heavy irony.
- His writing is rich in irony.
- It was one of life's little ironies.
- The irony is that when he finally got the job, he found he didn't like it.

irony

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

irony /'aɪərəni \$ 'aɪrə-/ *BrE* ^m *AmE* ^m **noun** (plural **ironies**)

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: Latin; Origin: ironia, from Greek *eironeia*, from *eirōn* 'person who lies']

1. **[uncountable and countable]** a situation that is unusual or amusing because something strange happens, or the opposite of what is expected happens or is true:

• Life is full of little ironies.

tragic/cruel/bitter etc irony

• The tragic irony is that the drug was supposed to save lives.

2. **[uncountable]** when you use words that are the opposite of what you really mean, often in order to be amusing

trace/hint/touch of irony

• Wagner calls his program 'the worst talk show in America,' without a hint of irony.

heavy irony British English (=a lot of irony)

• 'Of course Michael won't be late; you know how punctual he always is,' she said with heavy irony. ⇒ ↑sarcasm, ↑dramatic

irony

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THESAURUS

■ techniques used in language

- **metaphor** a way of describing something by referring to it as something different and suggesting that it has similar qualities to that thing: The beehive is a metaphor for human society.
- **simile** an expression that describes something by comparing it with something else, using the words **as** or **like**, for example 'as white as snow': The poet uses the simile 'soft like clay'.
- **irony** the use of words that are the opposite of what you really mean, often in order to be amusing: 'I'm so happy to hear that,' he said, with more than a trace of irony in his voice.
- **bathos** a sudden change from a subject that is beautiful, moral, or serious to something that is ordinary, silly, or not important: The play is too sentimental and full of bathos.
- **hyperbole** a way of describing something by saying that it is much bigger, smaller, worse etc than it actually is – used

especially to excite people's feelings: In his speeches, he used a lot of hyperbole. | journalistic hyperbole

- **alliteration** the use of several words together that all begin with the same sound, in order to make a special effect, especially in poetry: the alliteration of the 's' sound in 'sweet birds sang softly'
- **imagery** the use of words to describe ideas or actions in a way that makes the reader connect the ideas with pictures in their mind: the use of water imagery in Fitzgerald's novel 'The Great Gatsby' | She uses the imagery of a bird's song to represent eternal hope.
- **rhetorical question** a question that you ask as a way of making a statement, without expecting an answer: When he said 'how can these attitudes still exist in a civilized society?', he was asking a rhetorical question.

irony

Freakuency Pack

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15000 **2138**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** IRONY¹⁵⁷⁶¹

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ironic⁴²⁵⁰

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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

4383 **6571**⁵⁴⁷⁵ *nn1*
