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MAKING COMPARISON OF THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF SARCASM AND IRONY

Sarcasm and Irony have a very close relationship with one another. Both tend to be used to make a poignant or entertaining statement. Often times, people say something is ironic when it is actually sarcastic and vice versa because the two concepts have become so intertwined, whereas, in actuality, sarcasm is a concept that utilizes irony. In many instances, sarcasm is a remark seasoned with irony. You can think of irony as a vessel to express many things in a sarcastic way. For example, if a girl takes an especially long time to get ready as her date patiently waits for her, when she finally emerges, her date might remark with a deadpan tone “Well, you certainly don’t take long to get ready.” In the circumstance, again, irony is utilized to express the opposite of the actual situation to mock the extended length of time it took for the girl to actually get ready. Irony is employed, but the humor that is achieved though its use is sarcasm [2; 4]. In addition, sarcasm is always considered to be a form of wit, whereas irony can be found in any type of situation, be it funny or quite serious. Irony takes on many forms (generally tragic and situational irony) that are very saddening and in no way considered mockery. In this sense irony is a bit more varied and far-reaching in its scope than sarcasm [6].

We can accept that words can change meaning, irony and sarcasm do not mean the same thing! Irony has to be incongruous. It’s not the same as sarcasm.

Sarcasm is a subset of irony. Irony is merely the use of words to produce a meaning opposite the literal meaning. It can be sweet as well as sour. So all sarcasm is irony, but not all irony is sarcasm [3; 5; 7].

Though “irony” and “sarcasm” are both ways of saying one thing and meaning another, they go about it in different ways. Sarcasm is broader and more deliberate in its reversal of meanings; irony may be, and in literature generally is, very fine. It is basically a difference of degree. Sarcasm is really the use of irony with the added intention to mock, ridicule or express contempt. Examples: 1) Someone saying “It’s such

lovely weather outside!” when it’s actually raining heavily (irony). 2) Someone saying “Your intelligence astounds me!” when they actually mean the exact opposite, i.e. that the person is stupid (sarcasm). Ironic remark can be amusing, a sarcastic one is more insulting. The definitions below may help. A form of verbal irony, expressing sneering, personal disapproval in the guise of praise. (Oddly enough, sarcastic remarks are often used between friends, perhaps as a somewhat perverse demonstration of the strength of the bond – only a good friend could say this without hurting the other’s feelings, or at least without excessively damaging the relationship, since feelings are often hurt in spite of a close relationship. Irony is a form of speech in which the real meaning is concealed or contradicted by the words used. Irony involves the perception that things are not what they are said to be or what they seem. Dramatic irony lies in the audience’s deeper perceptions of a coming fate, which contrast with a character’s lack of knowledge about said fate. A common metaphor for using irony is to “have your tongue in cheek” [9].

Ironic literature exploits, in addition to the rhetorical figure, such devices as character development, situation, and plot to stress the paradoxical nature of reality or the contrast between an ideal and actual condition, set of circumstances, etc., frequently in such a way as to stress the absurdity present in the contradiction between substance and form.

Irony differs from sarcasm in greater subtlety and wit. In sarcasm ridicule or mockery is used harshly, often crudely and contemptuously, for destructive purposes. It may be used in an indirect manner, and have the form of irony, as in “What a fine musician you turned out to be!” or it may be used in the form of a direct statement, “You couldn’t play one piece correctly if you had two assistants.” The distinctive quality of sarcasm is present in the spoken word and manifested chiefly by vocal inflection, whereas satire and irony, arising originally as literary and rhetorical forms, are exhibited in the organization or structuring of either language or literary material. Satire usually implies the use of irony or sarcasm for censorious or critical purposes and is often directed at public figures or institutions, conventional behavior, political situations, etc.”

First let us say, with all respect to some of the other commentators, that sarcasm is essentially saying the opposite of what you mean. We don’t think it matters whether the tone is insulting or sneering, although it usually is. Someone pushes you out of the way in a queue, and you say “Charming!”: that is sarcasm. We think that it is more that sarcasm is felt as appropriate to nasty contexts than to pleasant ones, rather than an essential feature of sarcasm itself, that leads to it being used pejoratively.

Irony is variously defined. One of the definitions is that it presupposes a double audience, one (uninformed or naive) audience who takes what is said literally, and another, wiser, audience who sees the actually intended meaning, which is in some way incompatible with the literal meaning. Under this definition, it will be seen that sarcasm is a form of irony; but it is perhaps the crudest form of irony. A more sophisticated form of irony would be dramatic irony, where an author may have a character say something which the audience knows is true in a different sense from what the character is supposed to be thinking.

Here is an example of irony which is not sarcasm, but which is definitely intended to be insulting and hurtful. An Australian politician, Bill Hayden, who had been unceremoniously dumped as opposition leader in favour of Bob Hawke, who then won the election, was in trouble for allegedly criticizing his leader's handling of a crisis. And so held a press conference, and denied that he had any criticism of Hawke's performance, with the words "I am satisfied that he is handling the situation to the best of his ability." While this was purportedly an endorsement, it contained the clear suggestion that the prime minister was incompetent. It is not sarcasm, because it is not saying the opposite of what is intended; rather it leaves itself open to two interpretations, both consistent with the literal meaning of the words [8].

Thus, we can make a conclusion that knowledge of stylistics has many advantages for a person, who becomes a competent language user. Deep understanding of differences between irony and sarcasm can pave the way for more successful oral and written communication giving somebody an opportunity of accurate and exact interpreting of the described situation.

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НАВЧАННЯ ІНОЗЕМНОЇ МОВИ ШЛЯХОМ УПРОВАДЖЕННЯ ІГРОВИХ ТЕХНОЛОГІЙ

Інтеграція українського суспільства до Європейської співдружності, міжнародного соціально-економічного, культурного, інформаційного простору зумовлює потребу в ефективній дидактичній технології, що забезпечувала б неперервну взаємодію учасників навчання, вмотивоване залучення їх до навчально-виховного процесу, пробуджуючи бажання займатися самоосвітою та одержувати подальшу освіту у вищих навчальних закладах.

Метою навчання іноземних мов у загальноосвітній школі є усвідомлене використання учнями іноземної мови як інструменту діалогу культур і цивілізацій сучасного світу. Іноземна мова – елемент переліку обов'язкових дисциплін державного компонента навчального плану, необхідних для одержання державного атестата про середню освіту. Відомо, що успішне оволодіння іноземною мовою безпосередньо залежить від ефективності навчального процесу, яка, в свою чергу, зумовлюється управлінням і забезпечується контролем (Ю. К. Бабанський, В. М. Єфімов, Н. Ф. Талізін та інші) [3].

Основне призначення курсу іноземної мови – сприяти в оволодінні учнями компетенціями усного і писемного спілкування, відповідно до мотивів, мети, соціальних норм мовленнєвої поведінки у типових ситуаціях. Саме загальноосвітня середня школа є тим навчальним закладом, де формуються механізми спілкування, котрі в майбутньому зможуть розвиватися й удосконалюватися випускниками.

Використання ігрових технологій у процесі навчання іноземних мов являє собою спосіб організації викладання на основі комунікативних завдань. Технологія ігрового навчання ставить за мету навчити іншомовної комунікації, використовуючи всі необхідні для цього завдання і прийоми [2; 4].

Педагогічні можливості гри відомі давно. Роль гри в людських