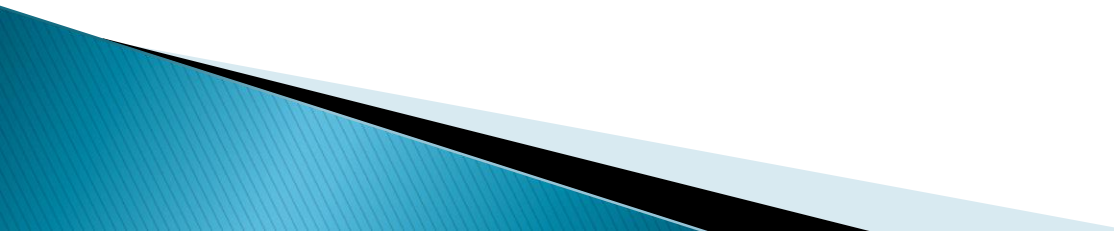
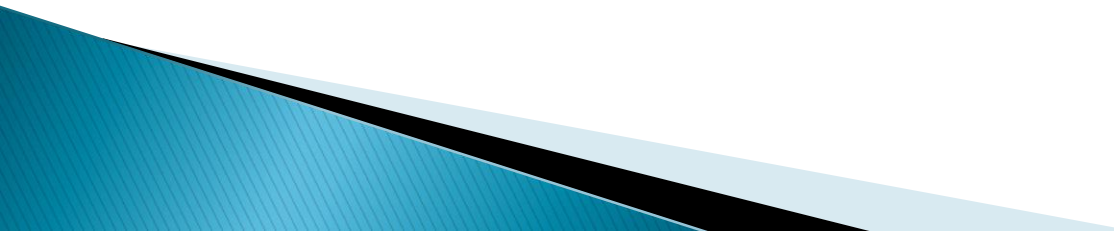


Paradox, Overstatement, understatement, and Irony

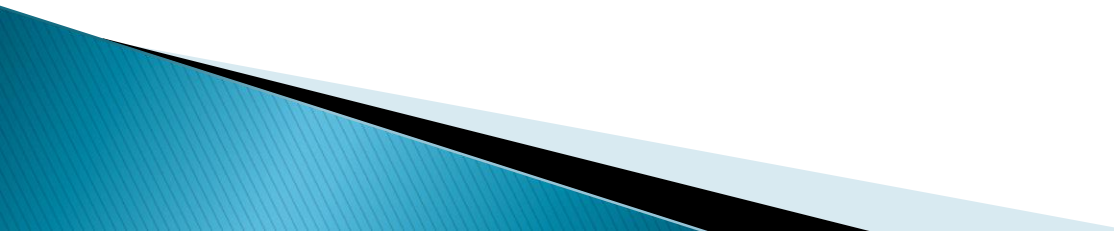
Paradox

- ▶ It is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless some how true. It may be either a situation or a statement
 - ▶ The lie is true
 - ▶ The more we learn the less we know
- 

Understatement

- ▶ Saying less than one means, may exist in what one says or merely in how one says it.
 - ▶ For example: upon sitting down to a loaded dinner plate, you say “this looks like a nice snack.”
 - ▶ Please come to my humble house (the house like a palace)
- 

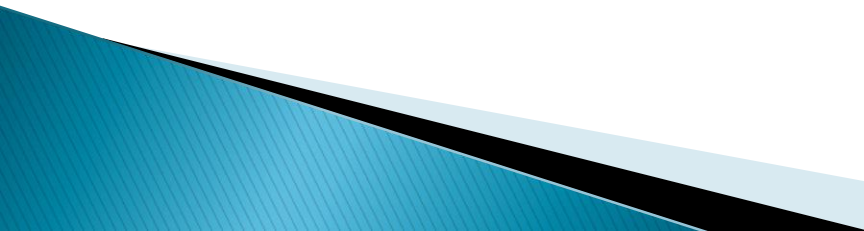
Overstatement/ hyperbole

- ▶ It is an exaggeration, but exaggeration in the service of truth
 - ▶ I'll die if I don't pass this course
 - ▶ I shall be telling this with a sigh
 - ▶ Somewhere ages and ages hence
- 

Irony

- ▶ It implies some sort of discrepancy or incongruity.
- ▶ Three kinds of irony:
 - Verbal irony
 - Dramatic irony
 - Irony of situation

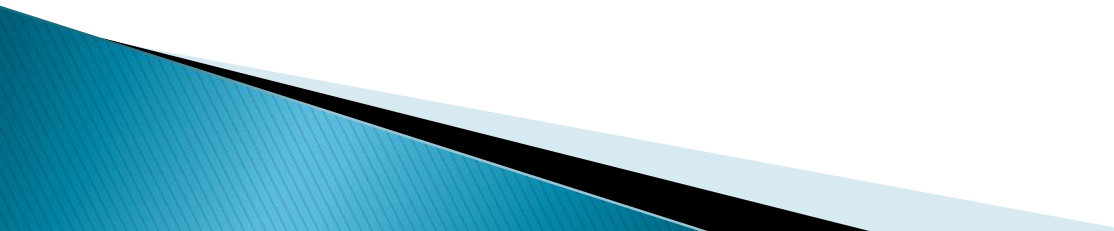
Verbal Irony

- ▶ A contrast between what is said and what it meant.
 - ▶ It is often confused with sarcasm and with satire.
 - ▶ Sarcasm is simply bitter or cutting speech, intended to wound the feelings (it comes from a Greek word meaning to tear flesh)
 - ▶ Satire is more formal term, usually applied to written literature rather than to speech and ordinarily implying a higher motive: It is ridicule (either bitter or gentle) of human folly or vice, with the purpose of bringing about reform or at least
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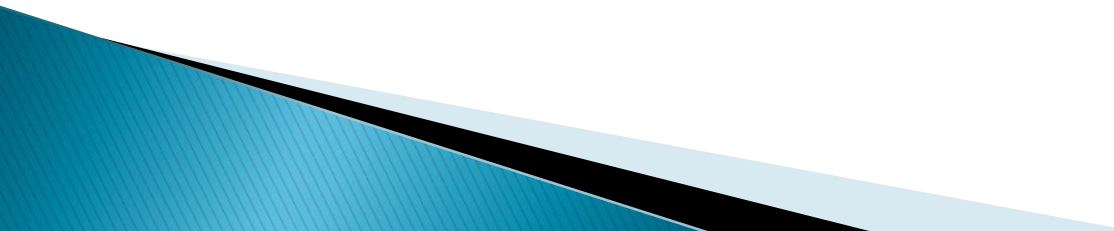
Example

- ▶ Verbal Irony : Here's some bad news for you: you all got A's and B's
- ▶ Sarcasm : The student says he don't understand then the teacher replies 'well, I wouldn't expect you to'
- ▶ Satire:

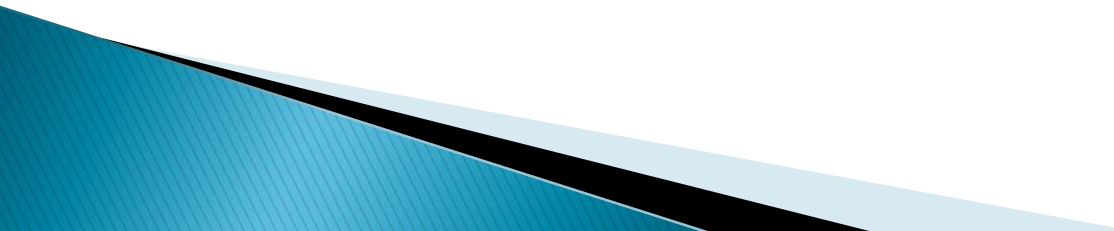
The hungry Judges soon the sentence sign,
And the wretches hang that jury-men may dine



Dramatic Irony

- ▶ The discrepancy between what the speaker says and what the author means
 - ▶ The speaker words may be perfectly straightforward, but the author, by putting these words in a particular speaker's mouth, may be indicating to the reader ideas or attitudes quite opposed to those the speaker is voicing
 - ▶ It is more complex than verbal irony and demands a more complex response from the reader .
 - ▶ It may be used not only to convey attitudes but also to illuminates character
- 

Irony of situation

- ▶ It occurs when a discrepancy exist between the actual circumstances and those that would seem appropriate or between what one anticipates and what actually comes to pass.
 - ▶ Dramatic irony and irony of situation are powerful devices for poetry, for, like symbol, they enable it to suggest meanings without stating them – to communicate a great deal more than is said
- 

My Life Closed Twice

Emily Dickinson

My life closed twice before its close;
It yet remains to see
If immortality unveil
A third event to me,

So huge, so hopeless to conceive,
As these this twice befell
Parting is all we know of hell