

THE JOKE: SKILL OPTIONS



A joke is the combination of a setup line and a punchline. Setup lines are statements, questions and stuff from everyday life. A punchline is what you say to make your stuff funny or at least bearable.

Here are three skill options...

EXAGGERATION

To exaggerate is to blow something out of proportion. In comedy when using exaggeration go **BIG**. The statement wasn't just *rude*, it was *world no-class*; he wasn't *slow*, he was *glacial*, or her purse wasn't *big*, it was a *tiny trailer with a strap*.

WORDPLAY

Dr. Seuss had the right idea. When you mix up words, the result will make you pee yourself. Try using words that sound funny and mean gibberish. If you still need an example, watch a politician explaining why they deserve their raises.

Pun: Guaranteed to get a groan. A kitten that dies tragically... a *CA*Tastrophe. A dog with a drinking problem... likes to pound them back. My favorite comic... Paula *PUN*stone.

WIT

This is often called speaking without the filter. Wit is caustic or really, really clever. So mostly caustic. To trip your wit switch just say what's on your mind... from a distance if possible.

There are many skills of comedy tune in to your favorite sit com and notice what you notice.

Now it is time for you to start writing your 1st jokes!

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EXERCISE:

EXAGGERATION

This is the greatest exercise in the whole world and that's no exaggeration. Everyone alive agrees with this! To exaggerate is to blow something out of proportion and make the subject seem silly. This is a handy skill in customer relations and dating. Exaggerate the following:

My bedroom is so small

My finances are so bad

WORDPLAY

Many comics like to use wordplay to create laughter. Wordplay is done by mixing up the words in a famous saying, using nonsense words or by rhyming. This is mostly done with famous quotes or popular culture sayings. Here are a couple of examples:

Ours is not to reason why, that is my boss's job!

Yeah though I walk through the shadow of the valley of death

I shall fear no evil, for I am none too bright.

Now pick a saying, quote or expression you like and then use wordplay to make it funny.

Saying:

Wordplay: