

Situation Irony

Definition:

- An occasion in which the outcome is significantly different from what was expected or considered appropriate.
- occurs when the final outcome is contradictory to what was expected

Example:

- One example is when emergencies services are called and an ambulance is sent to help a crash victim but accidentally runs over them when they arrive. This is situational irony because the ambulance is sent to help and does more harm by killing the victim. The opposite of what was expected.
- Another example of situational irony is from "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" by Coleridge. It reads. "Water, water, every where, / And all the boards did shrink: / Water, water, every where, / Nor any drop to drink." There is situational irony because they are surrounded by water yet unable to drink it.

Links:

Some helpful websites are

<http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-irony.html>

<http://www.englishlanguageterminology.org/situational-irony.htm>

<http://www.sarcasmsociety.com/irony.html>

Situational irony is located at the bottom of the web page.

Irony can be confusing and there are many different types. Situational irony is not to be confused with other types such as dramatic irony, which is where the audience knows more than the characters or there is a mis-communication. In Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare Romeo finds Juliet in a drugged state and he thinks she is dead. He kills himself. When Juliet wakes up she finds Romeo dead and kills herself. We know that she is not dead but Romeo did not.