

## Class Notes

**Topic:** Discuss the importance of irony in the story "Lamb to the Slaughter".

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Question/Main Ideas

### Notes

#### Step 1

Write one sentence telling what happens in the story. Start with "In the story..." **MUST INCLUDE:** the title, the author's name, and the characters' names.

*In the story, "Lamb to the Slaughter" by Roald Dahl, Mary, an obedient housewife, reacts to her husband Patrick's shocking news by murdering him with a leg of lamb.*

#### Step 2

Write a sentence that explains how important the use of irony is to the plot of the story.

*To set the tone for this sinister story, Dahl infuses his writing with dramatic and situational irony.*

#### Step 3

After...  
When...  
Even though...  
For example...  
For instance...  
In the beginning...  
Despite...  
In spite of...  
At first...

Add a transition starter to the beginning of the first story passage from the irony worksheet and write the sentence below.

*For example, after the dutiful wife is exasperated by what her fleeing husband shares with her, she stealthily creeps up behind him, "without any pause," and bludgeons him with a big frozen leg of lamb.*

#### Step 4

Write at least two sentences, explaining what type of irony is being used in the passage above and how the passage creates irony.

*Up until this point in the story, Mary is described as having a "slow smiling air about her, and about everything she did." She is a blissful woman who adores her husband so much that she luxuriates in his presence. Thus we, the readers, are bewildered by the situational irony of Mary murdering her husband. This was not what we expected to happen.*

#### Step 5

After...  
When...  
Even though...  
For example...  
For instance...  
In the beginning...  
Despite...  
In spite of...  
At first...

Add a transition starter to the beginning of the second story passage from the irony worksheet and write the sentence below.

*Later on in the story, after the police have arrived, Mary cleverly offers them the leg of lamb to eat saying, "It'd be a favor to me if you'd eat it up."*

## Step 6

Write at least two sentences, explaining what type of irony is being used in the passage above and how the passage creates irony.

*Unbeknownst to the police, Mary has just offered to serve them the murder weapon for dinner. By using dramatic irony, Dahl creates a scene where the police cluelessly dispose of the only evidence linking Mary to the crime.*

## Step 7

Finally...  
As a result...  
In conclusion...  
In the end...  
After all that happened...

Now it is time to wrap up your piece of writing with a concluding sentence. You may use a concluding transition starter if you so choose, but you do not have to.

*In the end, Mary deliciously giggles to herself over the crime she has just committed. There is no remorse. No regret. Only the satisfaction of knowing that her husband got what was coming to him.*

## Step 8

Now you need to write the rough draft of your paragraph. Include all nine sentences. Make sure to indent!

*In the story, "Lamb to the Slaughter" by Roald Dahl, Mary, an obedient housewife, reacts to her husband Patrick's shocking news by murdering him with a leg of lamb. To set the tone for this sinister story, Dahl infuses his writing with dramatic and situational irony. For example, after the dutiful wife is exasperated by what her fleeing husband shares with her, she stealthily creeps up behind him, "without any pause," and bludgeons him with a big frozen leg of lamb. Up until this point in the story, Mary is described as having a "slow smiling air about her, and about everything she did." She is a blissful woman who adores her husband so much that she luxuriates in his presence. Thus we, the readers, are bewildered by the situational irony of Mary murdering her husband. This was not what we expected to happen. Later on in the story, after the police have arrived, Mary cleverly offers them the leg of lamb to eat saying, "It'd be a favor to me if you'd eat it up." Unbeknownst to the police, Mary has just offered to serve them the murder weapon for dinner. By using dramatic irony, Dahl creates a scene where the police cluelessly dispose of the only evidence linking Mary to the crime. In the end, Mary giggles deliciously to herself over the crime she has just committed. There is no remorse. No regret. Only the satisfaction of knowing that her husband got what he deserved.*

<b>Response to Literature Rubric</b>	<b>8 Stellar</b>	<b>7 Good</b>	<b>6 Adequate</b>	<b>5 Inadequate</b>
<b>Worksheets:</b> Irony, Cornell Notes, Rough Draft				
<b>Final Draft Presentation:</b> Typed, 12pt. font, Creative Title, Double-spaced, Proper Heading				
<b>Vocabulary Words:</b> At least two vocabulary words are included within the paragraph.				
At least <b>2 Descriptive Details</b> identifying irony in the text. Sentences contain <b>effective Transition Starters</b>				
At least <b>2 Insightful Interpretations per detail</b> . Must include identification of the type of irony used.				
<b>Conventions:</b> Spelling, Punctuation, Indented Paragraph, No repetitions of "key" words/phrases, Missing words, Past Verb Tense, Capitalization Error				
Begins with a <b>2 sentence Paragraph Starter</b> and ends with a <b>Concluding Sentence</b> that effectively wraps up the paragraph				

Total: \_\_\_\_\_ /56