

## That's Ironic!

### Part A.

**Directions:** Read the following examples of irony, and identify what makes the situations ironic.

1. Your favorite store advertises that it has been renovated to make shopping easier. When you stop in, you find that it is like a labyrinth. The aisles are so complicated that you actually have trouble finding your way out.
2. You wake up in the morning with the conviction that this is going to be a wonderful day. When you step out the door, you slip on a patch of ice and break both of your legs.
3. A mother tells her son to clean up the mess in his room. When she checks it later, she finds the floor covered with dirty clothes and cobwebs in the corners. "Great job!" she proclaims.
4. As a graduating senior, Stella was voted "Most Likely to Succeed." Two months after graduation, she is arrested for shoplifting.
5. A boss orders his employees not to eat or drink at their desks. When his secretary goes into his office to announce the arrival of his 10:00 appointment, she finds him dunking a jelly donut into his coffee.

### Part B.

**Directions:** Based on the examples above, how would you define irony? What are some effects of irony?

## Irony in *The Crucible*

**Directions:** Explain how each of the following is an example of irony.

1. The name *Proctor* is of English derivation, meaning "one who is in charge."
2. Puritans believed that children should be seen, not heard.
3. One primary purpose of the Puritan settlers was to maintain community unity in a theocracy.
4. Throughout the play, Giles Corey seems talkative, amusing, and even somewhat silly.
5. When questioned by Reverend Hale, John Proctor forgets the commandment against adultery.

