

Name: _____

Visual Irony

Irony often involves a marked contrast between two concepts, such as a difference in expected results and actual results or a difference in actual words and the meaning of the words.

Find the irony in the pictures below. Write a short paragraph explaining the irony.

The Elephant, the Mahout, and the Cell Phone



The Historical Plaque



The Road Signs



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Actual student answers will vary. Answers should include the references below:

The mahout takes tourists on an old-fashioned elephant rides while speaking on a modern cell phone. The irony is the difference between the modern and the ancient. The viewer might expect the mahout to be behind the times, but he is not.

The Historical Plaque



A historical plaque usually denotes an important event; this one does the opposite. The irony is the difference between the expectation of reading about an important event and the reality that in this case, there is none.

The Road Signs



Roads signs are expected to clearly explain what the driver is to do. In this case the signs do the opposite and present the driver with few viable options: disobey one sign, disobey the other, or stay forever at the intersection.