**Satire:**

**A literary work that ridicules its subject through the use of techniques such as exaggeration, reversal, incongruity, and/or parody in order to make a comment or criticism about it. It is a way of exposing abuses, folly or stupidity through ridicule or exaggeration, with the hope of bringing about change.**

**It’s a common form of social or political criticism. Satire points out absurdity with absurdity.**

**Techniques of Satire:**

* **Exaggeration** - To enlarge, increase, or represent something beyond normal bounds so that it becomes ridiculous and its faults can be seen.
* **Incongruity** - To present things that are out of place or are absurd in relation to its surroundings.
* **Reversal** - To present the opposite of the normal order (e.g., the order of events, hierarchical order).
* **Parody** - To imitate the techniques and/or style of some person, place, or thing.

**Is it Satire?**

* Is a social or political issue being addressed? Is it an example of foolishness, injustice or stupidity?
* Is there an element of exaggeration, ridicule, or absurdity? Are there elements of irony or parody?
* Is it meant to be funny?
* Is there an underlying message that’s different from the message on the surface?
* Is there an element of criticism with the hope of encouraging change?

**Think SOAPS: Subject Occasion Audience Purpose Speaker**

**S** subject - What is being discussed?

**O** occasion - What is the context of events? What's happening?

**A** audience - To whom is the message directed?

**P**  purpose - What is the recommended action to the reader?

**S**  speaker - What/who is the source?