**Types of Comedy** – commedia dell ‘Arte

[humorous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humor) discourse generally intended to amuse,

[political satire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_satire) The theatrical genre can be simply described as a dramatic performance which pits two societies against each other in an amusing [agon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agon) or conflict.

two opposing sides as a "Society of Youth" and a "Society of the Old", - pantalone and Clarice a powerless youth and the societal conventions that pose obstacles (Fredrigo) to her hopes; in this sense, the youth is understood to be constrained by his lack of social authority, and is left with little choice but to take recourse to ruses which engender very dramatic [irony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irony) which provokes [laughter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laughter).

Much comedy contains variations on the elements of:

surprise,

incongruity,

conflict,

repetitiveness,

the effect of [opposite expectations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irony),

[Satire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satire) and [political satire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_satire) use ironic comedy to portray persons or social institutions as ridiculous or corrupt, thus alienating their audience from the object of humor.

bizarre, and improbable situations

[scatological humor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toilet_humor), sexual humor,

[race humor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Race_humor) create comedy by violating [social conventions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention_(norm)) or [taboos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taboo) in comic ways.

A [comedy of manners](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comedy_of_manners) typically takes as its subject a particular part of society (usually upper class society) and uses humor to parody or satirize the behavior and mannerisms of its members.

[Romantic comedy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic_comedy) is a popular genre that depicts burgeoning romance in humorous terms, and focuses on the foibles of those who are falling in love.

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| Main Entry: | **funny** |
| Part of Speech: | *adjective* |
| Definition: | comical, humorous |
| Synonyms: | [absurd](http://thesaurus.com/browse/absurd), [amusing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/amusing), [antic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/antic), [blithe](http://thesaurus.com/browse/blithe), [capricious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/capricious), [clever](http://thesaurus.com/browse/clever), diverting, [droll](http://thesaurus.com/browse/droll), [entertaining](http://thesaurus.com/browse/entertaining), [facetious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/facetious), [farcical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/farcical), for grins, [gas](http://thesaurus.com/browse/gas)\*, [gay](http://thesaurus.com/browse/gay), gelastic, good-humored, [hilarious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/hilarious), humdinger, [hysterical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/hysterical), jocose, [jocular](http://thesaurus.com/browse/jocular), [joking](http://thesaurus.com/browse/joking), [jolly](http://thesaurus.com/browse/jolly), [killing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/killing)\*, knee-slapper, [laughable](http://thesaurus.com/browse/laughable), [ludicrous](http://thesaurus.com/browse/ludicrous), [merry](http://thesaurus.com/browse/merry), [mirthful](http://thesaurus.com/browse/mirthful), [playful](http://thesaurus.com/browse/playful), [priceless](http://thesaurus.com/browse/priceless), [rich](http://thesaurus.com/browse/rich), [ridiculous](http://thesaurus.com/browse/ridiculous), [riot](http://thesaurus.com/browse/riot), riotous, risible, screaming, side-splitting, [silly](http://thesaurus.com/browse/silly), slapstick, sportive, waggish, [whimsical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/whimsical), [witty](http://thesaurus.com/browse/witty) |
| Antonyms: | [dramatic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/dramatic), [melancholy](http://thesaurus.com/browse/melancholy), [sad](http://thesaurus.com/browse/sad), [serious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/serious), [tragic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/tragic), unamusing, unfunny |

\* = informal/non-formal usage

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| Main Entry: | **funny** | |
| Part of Speech: | *adjective* | |
| Definition: | odd, peculiar | |
| Synonyms: | [bizarre](http://thesaurus.com/browse/bizarre), [curious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/curious), [dubious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/dubious), [fantastic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/fantastic), [mysterious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/mysterious), [perplexing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/perplexing), puzzling, [queer](http://thesaurus.com/browse/queer), [remarkable](http://thesaurus.com/browse/remarkable), [strange](http://thesaurus.com/browse/strange), [suspicious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/suspicious), [unusual](http://thesaurus.com/browse/unusual), [weird](http://thesaurus.com/browse/weird) | |
| Antonyms: | [common](http://thesaurus.com/browse/common), [normal](http://thesaurus.com/browse/normal), [standard](http://thesaurus.com/browse/standard), [usual](http://thesaurus.com/browse/usual) | |
| Main Entry: | | **laugh** |
| Part of Speech: | | *verb* |
| Definition: | | expressing amusement, happiness |
| Synonyms: | | break up, [burst](http://thesaurus.com/browse/burst)\*, cachinnate, [chortle](http://thesaurus.com/browse/chortle), [chuckle](http://thesaurus.com/browse/chuckle), convulsed, crack up, [crow](http://thesaurus.com/browse/crow), die laughing, fracture, [giggle](http://thesaurus.com/browse/giggle), [grin](http://thesaurus.com/browse/grin), [guffaw](http://thesaurus.com/browse/guffaw), [howl](http://thesaurus.com/browse/howl), [roar](http://thesaurus.com/browse/roar), roll in the aisles, [scream](http://thesaurus.com/browse/scream), [shriek](http://thesaurus.com/browse/shriek), [snicker](http://thesaurus.com/browse/snicker), snort, split one's sides, titter, whoop, with sound be in stitches |
| Antonyms: | | [cry](http://thesaurus.com/browse/cry) |

\* = informal/non-formal usage

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| Main Entry: | laugh/laughter | |
| Part of Speech: | *noun* | |
| Definition: | audible expression of amusement | |
| Synonyms: | [amusement](http://thesaurus.com/browse/amusement), cachinnation, cackle, chortle, chuckle, chuckling, crack-up, crow, [fit](http://thesaurus.com/browse/fit), [gesture](http://thesaurus.com/browse/gesture), giggle, giggling, [glee](http://thesaurus.com/browse/glee), guffaw, hilarity, howling, [merriment](http://thesaurus.com/browse/merriment), [mirth](http://thesaurus.com/browse/mirth), peal, rejoicing, roar, [shout](http://thesaurus.com/browse/shout), shriek, snicker, snigger, snort, [sound](http://thesaurus.com/browse/sound), titter, yuck | |
| Main Entry: | | **humorous** |
| Part of Speech: | | *adjective* |
| Definition: | | funny, comical |
| Synonyms: | | [amusing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/amusing), [camp](http://thesaurus.com/browse/camp)\*, campy, comic, [droll](http://thesaurus.com/browse/droll), [entertaining](http://thesaurus.com/browse/entertaining), [facetious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/facetious), [farcical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/farcical), [hilarious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/hilarious), jocose, [jocular](http://thesaurus.com/browse/jocular), jokey, joshing, [laughable](http://thesaurus.com/browse/laughable), [ludicrous](http://thesaurus.com/browse/ludicrous), [merry](http://thesaurus.com/browse/merry), [playful](http://thesaurus.com/browse/playful), [pleasant](http://thesaurus.com/browse/pleasant), [priceless](http://thesaurus.com/browse/priceless), ribald, screaming, side-splitting, too funny for words, waggish, [whimsical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/whimsical), [witty](http://thesaurus.com/browse/witty) |
| Antonyms: | | [depressing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/depressing), [dramatic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/dramatic), [gloomy](http://thesaurus.com/browse/gloomy), [morose](http://thesaurus.com/browse/morose), [sad](http://thesaurus.com/browse/sad), [serious](http://thesaurus.com/browse/serious), [tragic](http://thesaurus.com/browse/tragic), uncomical, unfunny |

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| Main Entry: | amusing |
| Part of Speech: | *adjective* |
| Definition: | entertaining, funny |
| Synonyms: | [agreeable](http://thesaurus.com/browse/agreeable), boffo, camp, campy, [charming](http://thesaurus.com/browse/charming), [cheerful](http://thesaurus.com/browse/cheerful), cheering, [comical](http://thesaurus.com/browse/comical), cut up, [delightful](http://thesaurus.com/browse/delightful), diverting, droll, [enchanting](http://thesaurus.com/browse/enchanting), [engaging](http://thesaurus.com/browse/engaging), [enjoyable](http://thesaurus.com/browse/enjoyable), entertaining, for grins, [fun](http://thesaurus.com/browse/fun), gladdening, [gratifying](http://thesaurus.com/browse/gratifying), gut-busting, [**humorous**](http://thesaurus.com/browse/humorous), [interesting](http://thesaurus.com/browse/interesting), jocular, jokey, joshing, laughable, [lively](http://thesaurus.com/browse/lively), merry, pleasant, [pleasing](http://thesaurus.com/browse/pleasing), priceless, screaming, sidesplitting, too funny for words, witty |
| Antonyms: | [annoying](http://thesaurus.com/browse/annoying), [boring](http://thesaurus.com/browse/boring), [tiring](http://thesaurus.com/browse/tiring), unfunny |