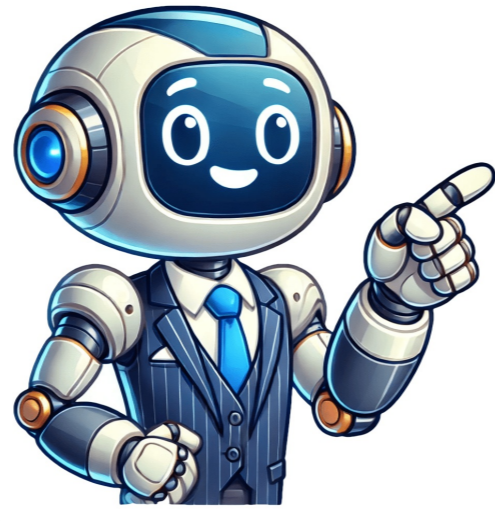


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What is it called when someone is saying something obviously untrue intentionally for humorous effect? And it's not ironic. For example: If someone is telling a funny anecdote about a person sitting next to him in the library the other day was watching graphic material and saying (afterwards, while telling the story) "You get really surprised when someone does that" and the listener adds "Yeah, especially when you were doing it as well". The listener (person saying the comment) is well aware that it's not the case, but he's saying it because it's a funny scene. It's not irony because it's well saying the opposite of what it literally means, however it is still untrue. I was thinking maybe sarcasm instead, but it's not really mocking either. It's just like a quick comment that everybody is well aware is not true, but it would be fun if it was (but is said like it was true, not like "it would have been fun if you would have been watching it as well.") The example comes from a Swedish podcast where one person was telling this funny story about what happened in the library, and the other person was putting in that comment. Edit: Another example could be like if a rich person is coming to a smaller, not as rich town and says "It's so fun to be around normal people" but in an obviously unserious way. Again, it's not irony in this case, because he does not mean "It's not very nice to be around normal people", but he's not serious about it either. I guess the joke here is that is kind of absurd to say that because it implies that he is better than normal people (but some people actually do say that seriously) so the joke would be how weird the statement is. He doesn't literally mean it, but he doesn't mean the opposite either. This got really long, so to summarise: A person saying a statement, either an opinion or "fact", which is obviously not true and should not be taken literally, for comic effect, but it doesn't include an opposite intended meaning (as with irony). Is there a term for this? I don't really understand your example. Can you try to explain in other words? A person saying a statement, either an opinion or "fact", which is obviously not true and should not be taken literally, for comic effect, but it doesn't include an opposite intended meaning (as with irony). Is there a term for this? Yes, it's called a joke. I'd call it wisecracking. I still don't understand what's being asked about. Yes, it's called a joke. Haha okay, so you would just describe it as a joke and not specify it more than that? I was thinking if it was a specific type of joke, like a sarcastic joke or something like that, but since it isn't mean, you would just say it's simply a joke? I'd call it wisecracking. What is the definition of that? I googled it and it says "witty remarks", but I'm not really familiar with that (English isn't my first language and there is not really a corresponding concept in Swedish)? Does that just mean quick and smart comments that is appropriate in the context? Because my examples are quite unclear just when writing them like this, they are more dependent of the context (unlike other certain types of jokes)? I found this thread when I was searching for a similar phrase to describe the reporter's question here: The question from the reporter is "tongue-in-cheek" - Obviously, the ruins of an apartment building right beside them would be hard to justify as a military target. But, in effect, he highlights the contrast between Putin's claims and the reality right beside them. I should note that the effect the reporter is going for here is not humour... just dramatic effect I'm sure there is a word or phrase to describe this, a rhetorical question? .. hyperbole? Raising an obviously false claim, rhetorically? I feel like there is a better word for this that I'm missing Last edited: Mar 16, 2022 I wonder if it's "playing to the gallery" - in the days of the British music halls, c1880-1920, popular entertainers would say deliberately absurd or ridiculous things to the audience, knowing and expecting that the audience would react in a certain way - no surprises in any direction, and the whole exchange infallibly predictable. Audience participation at the music halls was expected and encouraged. The gallery was the range of (cheapest) seats just under the roof of the theatre, which the young bloods would take. My dictionary defines playing to the gallery as "seeking to win approval by appealing to popular taste." As an undergraduate I wrote an essay on Voltaire, and analysed his language in terms of irony. I discovered that there are many types of irony. Despite what you say in the first lines of your post #1, this is ironic. Irony means telling lies for literary effect. Now, what sort of lies? Saying that a thing is more than it really is - called hyperbole. Saying that a thing is less than it really is - called understatement. Saying that a thing is the opposite of what it really is - called antiphrasis. Bringing up a subject by either denying it, or denying that it should be brought up - called apopohasis... And so on. I can't remember most of them, but this was over 50 years ago. What's the difference between these phrases, in context of legislation (in particular, of the EU) and similar? Example: "This Regulation shall enter into force on 9 January 1998." "It shall apply as from 1 January 1982 (until 1 January 1987)." "This Decision shall take effect on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union." Are they by any chance essentially the same? Because there's this also "It shall apply from the first day of the month following its entry into force." Essentially they mean the same thing. "Apply" can be used for a temporary situation with an end date, which "enter into force" and "take effect" cannot (they only have start dates, and the inference is that they then continue indefinitely). In formal language, "enter into force" is common with new laws, regulations and similar things, but I don't think it is used for other things like decisions or changes, for which "take effect" is used instead. Perhaps "take effect" is used for new laws as well; it certainly is in ordinary English (as opposed to the formal language used in legislation). I don't think "enter into force" is that common in ordinary language, but this does not mean you cannot use it. 1. The change will be effective April 22. 2. The change will be effective on April 22. 3. The change will be effective from April 22. 4. The change will be effective as of April 22. 5. The change will take effect April 22. 6. The change will take effect on April 22. 7. The change will take effect from April 22. 8. The change will take effect as of April 22. 9. The change will come into effect April 22. 10. The change will come into effect on April 22. 11. The change will come into effect from April 22. 12. The change will come into effect as of April 22. Please point out the wrong items. Thank you Last edited: Apr 22, 2017 Last edited: Apr 22, 2017 In ordinary writing, I'd probably use (6) or (10). None are specifically wrong, but the lack of a preposition in (1) (5) and (9) isn't idiomatic in BE unless you're writing some sort of legal document or contract. I would use 6 as a first choice but other options might fit specific circumstances better. In spoken language, 1, 5 and 9 wouldn't sound too odd, depending on the sentence. Thanks a lot for helping me Hello, everyone! My question is: what written word could I use to represent dogs' or wolves' howling? For example, the voice of cat is written like "meow", but what would represent howling the best? I would write something like "a-oooooo", but I have never encountered something like that, so it looks suspicious. I am not a native speaker of English, so I have some problems relating written words to sounds. I would appreciate any help. Thank you in advance. Ooooooowooooowooooo! (Rhyming with howl.) Hi Lilium I thought this Wiki site might help, but it doesn't, although it covers a large number of animal noises. I don't think there is a standard way of representing a howl That said, "howl" is, of course, itself onomatopoeic... Loob Derek Abbott's Animal Noise Page has a wonderful chart of animal sounds as rendered in different languages. There, the English sound of a wolf howling is given as owooooo. This is somewhat like The Scrivener's version. It seems likely that an English speaker would recognize either one, or something between them. Excellent link, Cagey! Loob Thank you very much, everyone. My vote is for aaah-ooooooooooooooh! (second syllable rhymes with "who"). If you want something approximating the sound the animal makes, you already have good suggestions. In addition, as Loob stated so clearly, howl itself is onomatopoeic, as is ululate. So, in the end, what is the best onomatopoeia of the howling of a wolf, and not particularly loud, either. As Loob points out, "howl" is itself onomatopoeic, very accurately so. Hi, I would like to check if the phrase should be "with effect from" or "with effective from". e.g. She will station in the Mainland office with effect / effective from 7 April 2011. I think it should be "with effect from" but the latter appears quite often. Do they have different meanings & usage or it is just a comond mistake? She will station be stationed in the Mainland office (with effect from/effective from) 7 April 2011. In other words you can say either with effect from or effective from. I think the way we'd usually say it in US English is: She will be stationed in the Mainland office effective 7 April 2011. Thanks natkretpe and Parla, so it seems that "with effective from" is a comond mistake. Thank you for correcting me And a question for "will be stationed". If "she" is the one who decided to move the office to Mainland (i.e. she is the boss), but not assigned by anyone. Do I still need to change it to passive? And a question for "will be stationed". If "she" is the one who decided to move the office to Mainland (i.e. she is the boss), but not assigned by anyone. Do I still need to change it to passive? When you use the passive voice like this, it appears that her superiors will station her in Mainland. She may or may not be happy about it. If she took the decision and she is her own boss, you can say She will station herself in her Mainland office... But that sounds a bit funny If she took the decision and she is her own boss, you can say She will station herself in her Mainland office... But that sounds a bit funny A bit? It's very funny sounding!!! Ivy, just say: She will be based in the Mainland office ... But, Nat, funny sounding or not, I did find something similar in the British National Corpus - Hamilton elected to station himself on the Queen Elizabeth, de Roleck's flagship. That is a different meaning of station, I believe. I think he is going to be on the ship so that he can supervise operations from there. (It turned out that he couldn't.) He is not assigning himself an administrative position in a company. Hi, I've seen this phrase in quite a few contracts now (e.g. This License Agreement is entered into effective as of the latest date of signature of the parties below. ), and I was wondering if it was a sort of elliptical version of "...entered into and shall be effective as of...," or something, I mean, should I parse it as two separate units ('[this contract is] entered into' and '[this contract] is effective' as of) or as a single one? If the latter —I can't think of any other case in which a prepositional phrase takes an adjective as a complement though, what would be the difference with 'entered into effect'? I'd really appreciate any help Cheers! Try reading it with a comma added: "This License Agreement is entered into, effective as of the latest date of signature..." In other words, the signatories enter into the agreement, which will take effect on the date indicated. Here's the standard warning, Half Prince: This is not a legal forum. If you or anybody you are working for could be liable in any way for any misunderstanding of legal language, you should ask an attorney to explain the phrase. That said, I think your version "entered into and shall be effective as of..." says the same thing as "is entered into effective as of...". Subject to owlman5's general warning on legal interpretation, I would say that your second reading, with the implicit commas suggested by Florentia52, is preferable because it is entering into the contract that is effective as of xxxx date. Hi all, I'd like to know if it's idiomatic to use "cause" and to say "cause an effect to" or "cause an effect on", as in: Eating fast food all the time will cause a harmful effect to/on our health. Having a pet causes positive effects to/on people. Many thanks! Eating fast food all the time will have a harmful effect on our health. Having a pet has a positive effect on people. I would not use "cause." I don't understand the difference between effect & affect ... can you tell me the difference between " Does it effect on me? " & " Does it affect on me? " ??? It would be more helpful if you could provide some examples too thank you! Did you do a search for existing threads before you posted your question. Dazun? Here's a good starting point. Your sentences are incorrect. You can say: Does it affect me? Does it have an effect on me? Your question is too wide. Instead of us inventing examples, it would be easier if you were to find real-life examples and then ask us questions about them. Otherwise we are simply writing an essay for you to read. You could continue asking about the two sentences you gave us. Last edited by a moderator: Apr 12, 2014 Neither "effect" nor "affect" used as verbs is normally followed by a prepositional phrase with "on."For a good explanation of the differences between these words, click here. Did you do a search for existing threads before you posted your question, Dazun? Here's a good starting point. thank you for the link . I'll try to understand ... Your sentences are incorrect. You can say: Does it affect me? Does it have an effect on me? Your question is too wide. I think you have to decide whether you want to talk about the two nouns or the two verbs. Instead of us inventing examples, it would be easir for you to find real-life examples and then ask us questions about them. Otherwise we are simply writing an essay for you to read. You could start with the two sentences you gave us. I heard it while I was watching a movie .. perhaps I heard it wrong .... affect & effect, both of them are verbs! so is it correct if Does it affect me? Or Does it effect me? I am not exactly sure what the verb is effect or affect ... here is a part of that dialog . A: does it is (affect / effect) me? B: no.. A: then suffer in silence Thank you very much .. With most AE speakers, you won't be able to hear the difference between "affect" (as a verb) and "effect" (as a noun). In my experience, sometimes the less common forms can be heard, e.g. 'affect' the noun, and 'effect' the verb. I agree with Flo as to 'affect' the verb and 'effect' the noun. ..I heard it while I was watching a movie .. perhaps I heard it wrong ..... affect & effect, both of them are verbs! so is it correct if Does it affect me? Or Does it effect me? I am not exactly sure what the verb is effect or affect ... here is a part of that dialog .. A: does it is (affect / effect) me? B: no.. A: then suffer in silence Thank you very much .. I shall answer by giving the definition of the verb to effect, to effect vb (transitive) to cause to occur; bring about; accomplish Example The government effected a change in the policy concerning income tax. (They caused a change to occur, brought it about) Now consider - Would it make sense to say "Does it effect me?" "Does it cause me to occur." "Does it bring me about." "Does it accomplish me." ? Last edited by a moderator: Apr 12, 2014