

10 Things to Remember When Writing Humor

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:

[How to Write Humor](#)

1. Humor is all about word choice, set up, and timing. Spend time finding different, unique ways to highlight the humor in the situation.
2. Use metaphors and similes to describe people, scenes, and events. You can evoke a funny image through comparison.
3. Avoid potty humor at all costs, unless your reader is under the age of 10. Potty humor doesn't resonate with most readers.
4. Use details to bring out the absurdity of a moment.
5. Take cues from real life. Don't be afraid to exaggerate actual events from your own life and insert them into your stories.
6. Avoid over explaining. If you have to explain why something's funny, it's not funny.
7. Don't sacrifice your story just to be funny. All funny, all the time doesn't always work. It can become very "onenote." You need to balance your storytelling with moments of seriousness, even if it's a funny story.
8. Be prepared -- you will offend. Humor is subjective. Your brand of humor will be offensive to someone, so go in knowing that not everyone will like it.
9. Let the reader in on the joke. Don't alienate the reader by writing a joke that the reader doesn't understand.
10. Edit in the humor. Remember not to try too hard in the first draft. It's during the editing process where you can polish up any humorous moments to perfection.