

Test Practice

Lamb to the Slaughter

Improve your test-taking skills by completing the sample test item below. Then, read the explanation that appears in the right-hand column.

Sample Test Item	Explanation of the Correct Answer
<p>From your knowledge of the events in "Lamb to the Slaughter," which of the following is an example of irony?</p> <p>A Mary is a devoted wife.</p> <p>B Patrick is a police officer.</p> <p>C The grocer asks Mary whether she needs meat.</p> <p>D The investigators know both Mary and Patrick.</p>	<p>The correct answer is C.</p> <p>Irony takes place when there is a difference between what we expect to happen and what actually happens. The grocer thinks that Mary is shopping for dinner and may need meat. The truth is that Mary has just killed her husband with meat from her freezer. A, B, and D are statements of fact that do not suggest a difference between an expectation and a reality.</p>

DIRECTIONS: Circle the letter of each correct response.



Reading Standard 3.8

Interpret and evaluate the impact of ambiguities, subtleties, contradictions, ironies, and incongruities in a text.

- Which of the following shows **situational irony**?
 - Calm, loving Mary violently kills her husband.
 - The police officer goes to the grocer's.
 - Patrick is a police officer.
 - The doctor says that Patrick's skull was smashed.
- Why does Mary go shopping for groceries?
 - Her husband wants dinner at home.
 - She needs fresh air.
 - She needs an alibi, or excuse.
 - She wants to confess to Sam.
- It is an **irony** that the grieving widow is also the—
 - murderer
 - victim
 - grocer
 - investigating officer
- Dramatic irony** takes place when Mary tells the police that—
 - she would like a drink
 - they would do her a favor by eating the lamb
 - she feels too ill to leave
 - she went grocery shopping