

humour**1. ['hju:mə] n****1. 1) юмор**

broad humour - грубоватый юмор

grim /black/ humour - чёрный юмор [см. тж. 4]

I don't see much humour in his remarks - ничего смешного /остроумного/ в его замечаниях не вижу

2) чувство юмора (часто sense of humour)

man of humour - человек с чувством юмора

he is lacking in humour - ему недостаёт чувства юмора

3) насмешливость; весёлость нрава; шутливость**2. 1) комизм, комичность**

the humour of his plight - комизм его положения

2) pl забавные или комичные черты**3. 1) настроение; склонность**

in a good [in a bad /in an ill/] humour - в хорошем [в плохом] настроении

out of humour - не в настроении, не в духе

out of humour with smb. [with oneself] - недовольный кем-л. [собой]

to be in the humour for smth. /to do smth./ - иметь желание /хотеть/ сделать что-л

he was not in the humour for work /for working/ - ему не хотелось работать у него не было настроения работать

I am in no laughing humour - мне не до смеха

the humour took him - он был в ударе

2) каприз, причуда, чудачество

the child's humours - детские капризы

4. темперамент, нрав; душевный строй

grim humour - мрачный нрав [см. тж. 1, 1])

5. *ист. мед.* влага, жидкость (как компонент живого тела)

cardinal humours - основные «соки» в организме человека (кровь, флегма, жёлчь, чёрная жёлчь или меланхолия)

6. *физиол.* телесная жидкость**2. ['hju:mə] v****1. потакать; убажывать, баловать**

to humour a child - баловать /выполнять все прихоти/ ребёнка

to humour smb.'s fancy - потакать чьим-л. капризам

2. приспособливаться, принаравливаться

to humour a lock - приспособиться к замку, научиться открывать замок

humour

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

hu·mour [humour humours humoured humouring] (especially US hu·mor)noun, verb BrE ['hju:mə(ɔ)]¹ NAmE ['hju:məɹ]¹

noun

1. uncountable the quality in sth that makes it funny or amusing; the ability to laugh at things that are amusing

- a story full of gentle humour
- She ignored his feeble attempt at humour.
- They failed to see the humour of the situation.
- I can't stand people with no **sense of humour** .
- Whatever you do, don't lose your sense of humour.
- She smiled with a rare flash of humour.
- She has her very own brand of humour.
- The film is only funny if you appreciate French humour (= things that cause French people to laugh) .

2. countable, uncountable (formal) the state of your feelings or mind at a particular time

- to be in the best of humours
- The meeting dissolved in **ill humour** .
- to be **out of humour** (= in a bad mood)

see also ↑good humour, ↑good-humoured, ↑ill-humoured**3. countable (old use)** one of the four liquids that were thought in the past to be in a person's body and to influence health and characterWord Origin:

Middle English: via Old French from Latin **humor** 'moisture', from **humere** 'be moist'. The original sense was 'bodily fluid' (surviving in ↑aqueous humour and ↑vitreous humour); it was used specifically for any of the cardinal humours (sense 3), which led to the sense 'mental disposition' (thought to be caused by the relative proportions of the humours). This led, in the 16th cent., to the senses 'mood' (sense 2) and 'whim', hence to humour someone 'to indulge a person's whim'. Sense 1 dates from the late 16th cent.

Culture:**humour**

A **sense of humour** (**AmE humor**), an ability to see the **funny side of life**, is considered essential by most British and American people. Everyone needs to be able to **laugh at themselves** sometimes, and to recognize that the situation they are in may look funny to others. It is considered a serious criticism of somebody to say that they have no sense of humour.

Some people have a **dry** sense of humour, and can **keep a straight face** (= not smile) and let their voice sound as though they are being serious when they are joking. Other people are said to be **witty** (= show a very clever type of humour). A person's sense

of humour is influenced by many things, including family and social background and age.

British and American humour on stage have some important differences, although the fact that some **comedy** television programmes are popular in both countries shows that there is some common ground. American **sitcoms** (= shows in which the humour comes from situations that the characters get into) such as ↑**Frasier**, ↑**Friends** and ↑**Seinfeld** are as popular in Britain as Britain's own ↑**Vicar of Dibley** and ↑**Office**. Sitcoms often have a **laugh track** (= a recording of people laughing) so that the audience at home will laugh in the right places. In many sitcoms gentle fun is made of ordinary life without the risk of causing anyone serious offence.

American stage humour is more direct than British comedy. In the American series **Cheers**, for instance, the humour comes from characters like Coach and Woody being more stupid than any real person could possibly be. But in the British comedy ↑**Fawlty Towers** Basil Fawlty's funny characteristics are exaggerated versions of those found in the type of Englishman he represents.

Slapstick comedy, which is based on people falling over, bumping into each other, etc. is now less popular in Britain.

British comedy makes frequent use of **irony**, humour which depends on a writer or performer suggesting the opposite of what is actually expressed. Many novels, films, stage plays, etc. use irony, even when discussing serious subjects such as death.

Popular humour may sometimes rely on **double entendre** (= using a phrase that can be understood in two ways, one of which is usually sexual) or on **innuendo** (= making an indirect suggestion of something rude). These were both used a lot in the popular series of **Carry On** films that began in the 1960s.

Satire (= making people or institutions appear ridiculous to show how foolish or bad they are) is an important element of popular British political comedy programmes such as ↑**Yes, Minister** and **Spitting Image**. One of the most successful British comedy series, which also became popular in the US, was ↑**Monty Python's Flying Circus**. It had a **zany** (= odd and silly) and **satirical** humour which appealed especially to young people.

Comic strips and **cartoons**, whether printed in newspapers, shown on television or the Internet or made into films, are popular in both the US and Britain. The most famous include ↑**Peanuts**, ↑**Tom and Jerry** and ↑**Simpsons**.

Stand-up comedians like Bill Cosby and Jerry Seinfeld in the US and in Britain Peter Kay, Eddie Izzard and Jo Brand, perform on television or in clubs, telling **gags** (= jokes) and funny stories which end with a **punch line**, the part where the audience is supposed to laugh. Many comedians **tell jokes** that are funny because of some racial or sexual innuendo, and this may be considered unacceptable for family audiences. In Britain, common targets of comedians include mothers-in-law, foreigners and people from particular parts of Britain, especially Scotsmen (who are supposed to hate spending money) and Irishmen (who are supposed to be stupid). Many people find such jokes offensive and the new generation of comedians has avoided making fun of people's race. Another form of comedy is for people from minority groups to make fun of their own customs and attitudes. Many people tell jokes at school, at home and at the office. People may start a speech with a joke or funny story to help **break the ice** (= make people feel more relaxed).

Children tell jokes that involve a play on words, such as ↑**knock-knock jokes** or 'What do you call...' jokes e.g. 'What do you call a man with a seagull on his head?' 'Cliff.'

Adults sometimes tell what in the US are called **Polish jokes** because they are about a particular national or racial group. There are also jokes about blondes (= women with fair hair) being stupid, and lawyers having bad characters. For instance, 'Why do they do lab experiments on lawyers?' 'Because there are some things that even a rat won't do.' On the whole this type of humour is considered dated and in bad taste. **Light bulb jokes** make fun of the worst characteristic of any group of people, by suggesting mistakes they would make in trying to change a light bulb: 'How many psychologists does it take to change a light bulb?' - 'Just one, but it has to really want to change.'

Practical jokes involve tricking people, and are not usually very popular, but on ↑**April Fool's Day** (1 April) people traditionally play practical jokes on each other. Newspapers often include a story that is not true hoping that some readers will believe it and then feel silly.

Thesaurus:

humour (BrE) (AmE humor) noun U

• She ignored his feeble attempt at humour.

wit • • **comedy** • • **funny side** • • **banter** •

Opp: seriousness

gentle/wry humour/wit/comedy

dry/deadpan/black humour/comedy

see/appreciate the humour/comedy/funny side of sth

Example Bank:

- Her good humour was restored by the excellent meal.
- Her speech was serious, but not without the occasional touch of humour.
- His colleagues soon got fed up with his schoolboy humour.
- The man who lost his shoes failed to see the humour of the situation.
- The movie uses humour to make its points.
- The remarks were made in good humour.
- The stories are full of humour.
- This movie takes crude gross-out humour to a new low.
- With wry humour, they laugh at their misfortunes.
- a television sitcom with its own peculiar brand of humour
- to have a dry/good/great/warped/weird/wicked sense of humour
- He has a good sense of humour.
- I can't stand people with no sense of humour.
- It was a story full of gentle humour.
- The film is only funny if you appreciate French humour.
- Whatever you do, don't lose your sense of humour.

verb ~ sb

to agree with sb's wishes, even if they seem unreasonable, in order to keep the person happy

- She thought it best to humour him rather than get into an argument.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	humour
	BrE / 'hju:mə(r)/
	NAme / 'hju:mər/
he / she / it	humours
	BrE / 'hju:məz/
	NAme / 'hju:məz/
past simple, past participle	humoured
	BrE / 'hju:məd/
	NAme / 'hju:məd/
-ing form	humouring
	BrE / 'hju:mərɪŋ/
	NAme / 'hju:mərɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: via Old French from Latin **humor** 'moisture', from **humere** 'be moist'. The original sense was 'bodily fluid' (surviving in **aqueous humour** and **vitreous humour**); it was used specifically for any of the cardinal humours (sense 3), which led to the sense 'mental disposition' (thought to be caused by the relative proportions of the humours). This led, in the 16th cent., to the senses 'mood' (sense 2) and 'whim', hence to humour someone 'to indulge a person's whim'. Sense 1 dates from the late 16th cent.

See also: ↑humor

humour

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **hu**mour¹ BrE ^ˈ AmE ^ˈ British English, **humor** American English /'hju:məʃ 'hju:mər, 'ju:/- noun [uncountable]

1. the ability or tendency to think that things are funny, or funny things you say that show you have this ability:

- his humour and charm
- Greg's feeble attempt at humour
- English humour
- It's vital to have a sense of humor in this job.
- The host puts the contestants at ease with his own brand of humor.
- He showed flashes of humor that delighted the audience.

2. the quality in something that makes it funny and makes people laugh:

- He failed to see the humour of the situation.

3. **in a good/an ill/a bad humour** *formal* in a good or bad mood ⇒ ↑good humour

4. **out of humour** *British English old-fashioned* in a bad mood

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meanings 1 & 2)

■ phrases

- **a sense of humour** I'm afraid my dad doesn't have a very good sense of humour.
- **somebody's brand of humour** (=the type of jokes, funny stories etc that a particular person likes or tells) Their brand of humour isn't to everyone's taste.
- **a flash/trace/touch of humour** (=a very small amount of humour) She replied with a rare flash of humour.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + humour

- **black/dark humour** (=jokes, funny stories etc about the unpleasant parts of life) The tone of the film is light but there are moments of black humour.
- **gallows humour** (=jokes, funny stories etc which make very unpleasant or dangerous things seem funny) It was the kind of gallows humor that medical students love.
- **schoolboy humour** (=jokes, funny stories etc that are silly and rude but not offensive) The schoolboy humour appealed to him.
- **dry/deadpan humour** (=when someone makes it seem as if they are being serious, but really they are being funny) His serious demeanour lends itself to deadpan humour.
- **wry humour** (=when someone makes something seem both funny and sad) He wrote with wry humour about his time in a Turkish prison.
- **gentle humour** (=jokes or stories that do not offend anyone) The plays uses gentle humor to make a strong point.
- **self-deprecating humour** (=jokes, funny stories etc in which you criticize or make fun of yourself) Her self-deprecating humour made the audience howl with laughter.

■ verbs

- **see/appreciate the humour** (=understand that something is funny) I may have been wet and covered in mud, but I could still see the humour in the situation.

II. **humour**² BrE ^ˈ AmE ^ˈ British English, **humor** American English verb [transitive]

to do what someone wants or to pretend to agree with them so that they do not become upset:

- 'Of course,' he said, humouring her.

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humour 160

humorous 0

humourously 0

humorously 185

humor 10325

humorous 1536

humourless 0

humorless 276

humourlessly 0

humorlessly 27

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

¹¹²**59558**¹⁶⁰ *nn1*