

Humorography By Anthony Perea

This homography is written in the form of an “essay” on a Google Document because I have the drawing skills of a third-grader, not even a talented third-grader. I guess I should start by introducing myself. My name is Anthony Perea (you already know this or read this on top of the page). I am currently a student at the Colorado School of Mines. I am majoring in mechanical engineering, which means that I am undecided as to what I want to do when I graduate. Truthfully, I did pick this major because I can go into many fields, so I am not stuck in one industry. On-campus, I am the president of the Mines Park Community Council. It was a very competitive race running against me, myself, and I (see figure 1). My minor in the McBride Honors Program is making me explore my world, but it is first making me explore my sense of humor through this humorography. I hope to accomplish this goal with the rest of this document.

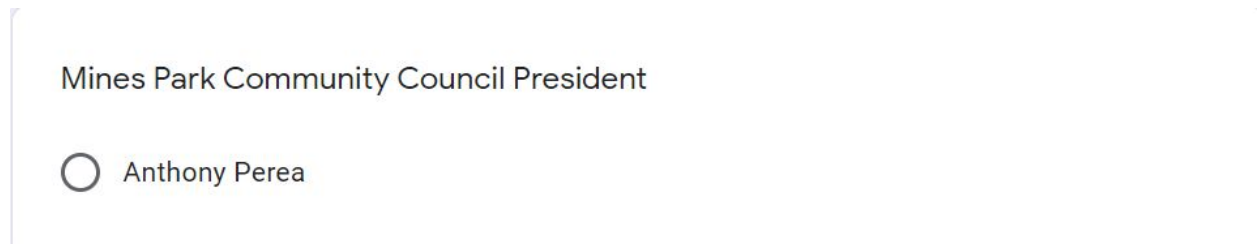


Figure 1. Mines Park Community Council Ballot

My sense of humor is not something that I thought to label or consider before I walked into AH 230. Over the last few weeks in class, I have thought about my sense of humor. The labels that I put on it were sarcastic and ironic. I guess that sense of humor has shaped the tone of this paper so far. Now that I think about it, I tend to be humorous around other people. I need shared experiences with people to be humorous. When I can be humorous, I know that I can trust others and talk to them.

I thought of a few examples of sharing a laugh with the people around me. My cousin took a drive to get something we needed from the store. He drove while I rode in the passenger seat. Once we got back home, I got out of the car and pretended to be relieved that we arrived safely. I was actually relieved, but don't tell him I said that. Similarly, there are times when my cousin will poke fun at my nerdiness or lack of athleticism. We play along with these jokes or make fun of ourselves as well.

My humor does not solely come from being mean to those around me and being self depreciating. My humor can come from circumstances that are beyond our control. Last school year, we transferred from Mines to our basements at home. I would text my friends from Mines about being college students in our parents' basement. We would joke about having to walk far to classes, how we definitely didn't wait to watch some long lectures at twice the speed, and how we had to eat home-cooked meals instead of eating at Mines Market. We can also joke about our

experiences living in the residence halls and sharing the same classes. Humor is best when you know you can share with others.

I used to think that humor had to be shared by those who know each other. I now realize that strangers can share a joke even in the most mundane situations. Those who work in customer service often share a joke with those they come across. Sometimes a waiter will say something funny like ‘someone is getting fired’ when the staff makes a simple mistake on an order. Sometimes it doesn’t land. You always hear cashiers vent on how everyone says “I guess it’s free” when an item is missing its price tag. Humor allows us to indirectly relate to another person and their experiences in an easy way. At least I find it easier than asking ‘What do you think of the nice weather?’.

I am drawn to sarcasm and satire because it almost always involves the current situation. I think I am drawn to sarcasm because not everything needs to be serious. This essay needs to be formal, but many times in life do not need to be. If someone is sarcastic, I know that is not pretending to be a serious person with no emotion. While anyone can be sarcastic, it requires at least some thinking and awareness as opposed to someone falling down the stairs on some viral video. Events in our life can be traumatic, stressful, or weird. If someone pitched a movie called 2020 that was about the events of the last year, I would have told them it was too absurd to have any basis in reality. Making jokes lets me process that I now attend the prestigious University of Zoom. It is also good to have a laugh while I have been stuck at home. I don’t know how to end this, so I will just stop writing here.