Developing
your humor skills:
What leaders
need to know

Emilia Bunea, Ph.D.

Leadership lecturer, VU Amsterdam

Co-founder, ed movie





Andrew R. Olah*, Janelle S. Junkin, Thomas E. Ford and Sam Pressler

Comedy Bootcamp: stand-up comedy as humor training for military populations

https://doi.org/10.1515/humor-2022-0007 Received October 1, 2021; accepted March 2, 2022; published online April 26, 2022 **DE GRUYTER** MOUTON

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Bunea, E. (2023). Comedy as serious leisure for leaders. Working paper.

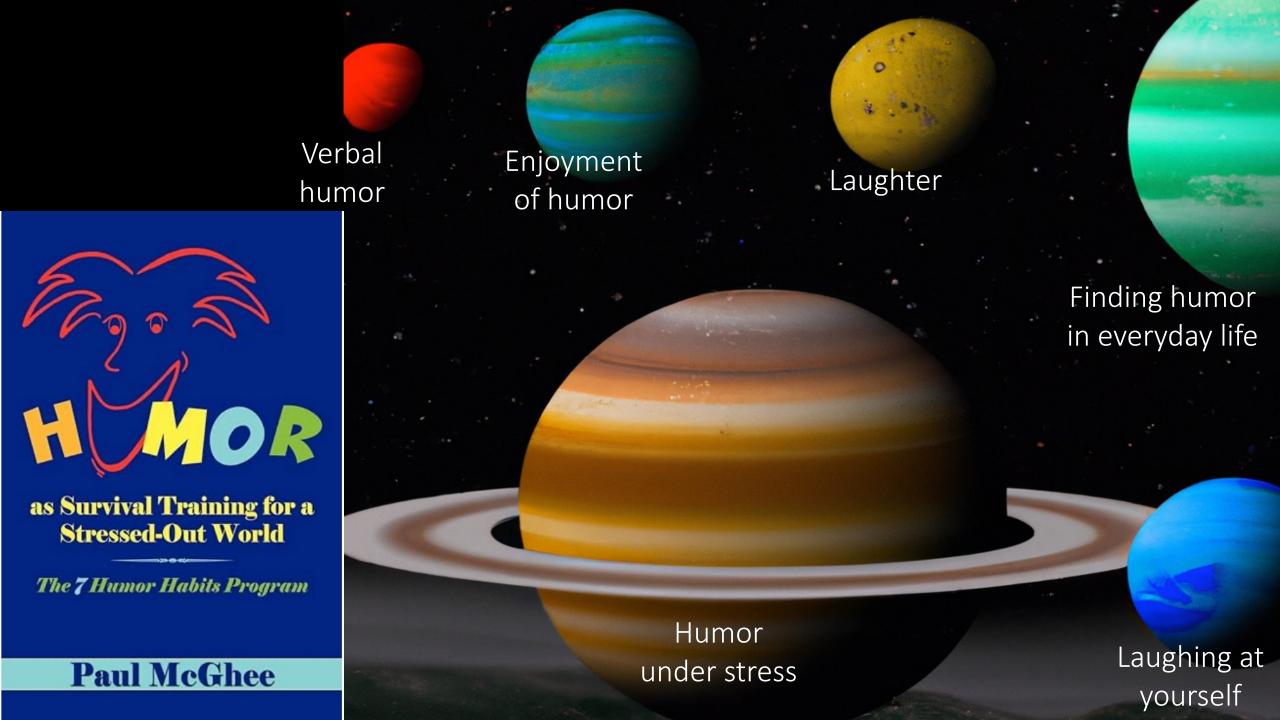


















3. Respect it as a serious skill





Write your answers on your device now!

















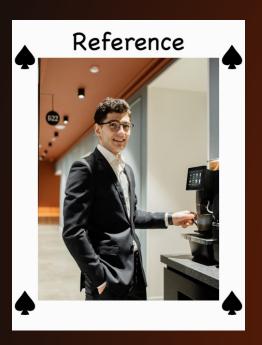


4. Raise your game















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Irony









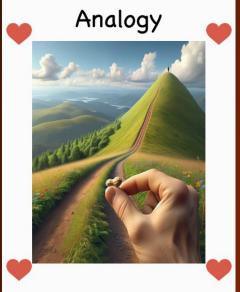


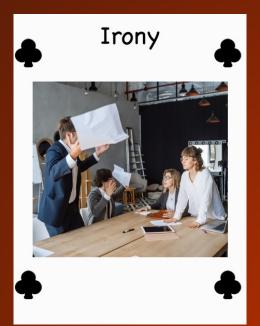












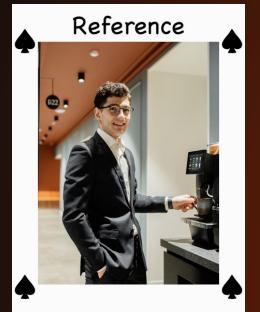
Self-deprecation

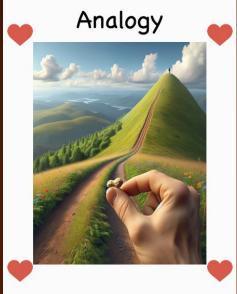




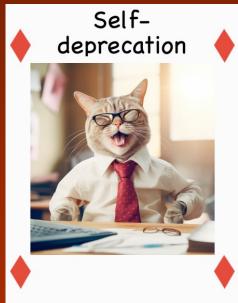










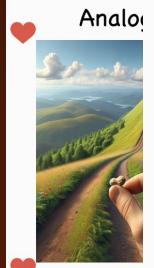




Hyperbole











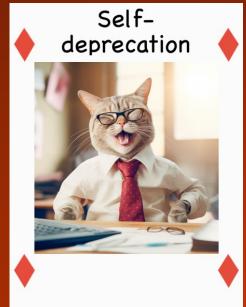














III. Risk management





6. Timing



Timing and risk of leader humor

During "unstructured time" (before/after meetings)	During "bad news" meetings (disappointing results, customer issues, failed projects)
When things are "humming along"	In a crisis
When the leader has the trust of the team	When the leader still needs to gain the trust of the team
Prepared in advance (e.g. emails, presentations)	On the spur of the moment

Low risk

High risk

7. Mind your style



Selfenhancing



Affiliative



Aggressive?



Self-defeating ... or self-deprecating?





Key takeaways

Focus on your goal

Expand your humor

Respect it as a serious skill

Raise your game

Equalize stage time

Timing

Style

Focus on your goal

Expand your humor

Respect it

Raise your game

Equalize stage time

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Style



