

27 Comedy

The aim of this lesson is to make the students use the key vocabulary and target expressions in a more natural manner.

Language Point

You're kidding me!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You're joking! - Seriously? - Get out of here! 	 
He's hysterical!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He's hilarious! - He's so funny! - He's a riot! 	
Classic!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Super! - Terrific! - Outstanding! 	
I'm in!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please count me in. 	

Key vocabulary

kid	die to	hysterical	negotiate
hand over	hostage	ironic	spouse

Part 1

I. INTRODUCTION

Comedy is a form of art which aims to **amuse** and **bring boisterous laughter** to people. **Stand-up comedy** is a **live performance** where comedians on stage communicate with the audience through a **microphone**. The comedian talks about social or political issues in the most entertaining ways.



II. PRESENTATION

A. Expressions

	Questions:
You're kidding me!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Who is the most humorous person in your circle of friends?
He's hysterical!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Why is it good to have someone with a good sense of humor around?
I'm in!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Would you eagerly participate in a practical joke led by your friends?

B. Dialogue

Practice the dialogue with your teacher.

Claudia: I heard Jim Gaffigan is performing at the Gotham Comedy Club on Friday night.

Ross: You're kidding me! I'm dying to see him! We're so there!

Claudia: For sure. He's hysterical!

Ross: He totally cracks me up.

Claudia: I laughed so hard when he said getting food delivered to your door was like negotiating a hostage situation; "Okay, you hand over the food and I'll hand over the money."

Ross: Classic! I'm going to order tickets right now.

Yuto: Sorry, I'm confused. I think we don't usually have this type of comedy in Japan. Is it a movie?

Ross: No. It's a live show in front of an audience performed while standing up, that's why it's called stand-up comedy.

Yuto: I see. What kinds of things do they make jokes about?

Ross: All different kinds of things. It depends on the performer. It can be about politics, spouses, children. For example, if the comedian is fat, he'll likely make fun of his size. A woman might make jokes about her husband or other personal things. Usually, it's something ironic.

Claudia: Jim Gaffigan is chubby with very pale skin and has five kids. So, he has a lot of material to work with.

Yuto: Still not sure. I guess I'll have to join you and see it for myself. I'm in!

Q & A!



- Is stand-up comedy popular in Japan?
- What is the most famous comedy show in your country?
- In your opinion, what are the advantages and disadvantages of being a comedian?

Part 2

III. PRACTICE

Use the newly learned vocabulary and expressions in the following practice exercises.

A. Laugh-Out-Loud

Directions: Express your opinion about the following topics.

State some health benefits of laughing and making someone laugh.



Talk about the funniest comedian in Japan and explain why people love his/her humor.



B. Let's Talk!

Directions: Express your opinion about the following topics. Defend your answers.

You are excited to be witnessing a stand-up comedy show.

However, the comedian's narratives revolve around racial discrimination, body shaming, and a person's sexual orientation, which you find offensive.

What will you do?

- a. Laugh out loud.
- b. Just keep quiet and pretend I don't notice.
- c. Walk out of the show.



A comedian is asking you to join him on stage. The crowd is huge and the audience is cheering for you to go up.

What will you do next?

- a. I don't mind. I will smile confidently and join him.
- b. I don't want to be the center of attention so I will definitely refuse.
- c. I will cover my face and let the person sitting next to me go instead.



C. Role-Play

Role-Play



An American stand-up comedian who is known for his dark humor will be performing in your prefecture. Your friend wants to go with you, but you are not interested. Tell him your decision.

Use the vocabulary and expressions you have learned.