

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Understatement**

# Functions of Understatement

Understatement means intentionally using words that suggest a situation is less than it actually is.

Understatement is often ironic, since it conveys nearly the opposite of what is expected or considered appropriate to the circumstances. Understatement can also convey comedy, modesty, or politeness.



**DIRECTIONS:** Respond to the situation below with an understatement. How is your understatement functioning in the situation? Explain.

**You have just been told that a multibillionaire you didn't even know has died and left all of their money to you.**

Your response:

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Function of the Understatement:

ironic

comedic

modest

polite

Explain:

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