

Brainstorming Jokes

[How to Brainstorm Jokes]

Use free associations to come up with a bunch of topics

Try associating between different types of ideas - characters, locations, things, actions, adjectives, situations, dialogue lines.

List Aspects	Absurd Associations	Absurdify an Aspect	Mix Patterns
Start by coming up with the first pattern. A pattern can be a topic, a situation, or a dialogue line. Patterns can be broken down into a list of aspects: Characters, locations, things (nouns), actions and behaviors (verbs), characteristics (adjectives), events, related phrases, dialogue lines. Abstract patterns it is a part of: categories it belongs to, statements, descriptions, questions, opinions, feelings, relationships. Related tropes, mental images it evokes. Assumptions, expectations, explanations (why, how), reasons for it, its past, future. Things people say about it, things it is known for, things it does, things you do with it, things you use it for, things it symbolizes. <i>Anyways</i> (saying weird things about it, benefits, drawbacks. Ways to use/interact with it. Analogies, antonyms. Start with simple, specific, concrete aspects, then list progressively more abstract aspects. The most useful aspects are the ones that can be associated to many different, unrelated ideas. Topic Cell phone Possible Aspects Teenager, cellphone factory, camera, battery, texting, calling, expensive, addictive. Brilliant inventions, things you can't use on an airplane, brings me bad news in the morning, worth waiting 8 hours in line for, something to angrily scream into, every kid in school wants it, tool for long-distance relationships, my only connection to outside world, symbol of my generations laziness.	Take an aspect, and associate it to the most unrelated pattern you can associate it to, something as different from the first pattern as possible. Pattern 1 → Take an aspect out of context → Find Pattern 2 where it fits Or take two unrelated patterns, and find a surprising connection, an aspect they have in common. Pattern 1 → Find Common Aspect → Pattern 2 Our goal is to find a surprising connection between unrelated ideas: Similar, Closely Related Pattern 1 Aspect Pattern 2 Dissimilar, Closely Related As unrelated and different from each other as possible. Pattern 1: Brave person Aspect: He has "a heart of a lion" Pattern 2: Internal organ that pumps blood.	Another way of finding funny ideas is to take an aspect, make it absurd, and then find a second pattern where this absurdified version of the aspect fits and makes sense. Pattern 1 → Absurdify an aspect → Find Pattern 2 where it fits Some jokes just take two patterns that don't belong together, and clash them together, with no clear association between them. Sometimes doing the stupidest thing that makes the least sense possible is just funny. Pattern 1 → Pure absurd → Combine the pattern with something that fits it the least. Ways to absurdify an aspect: Reverse the aspect. Define what you assume or expect it to be, and do the opposite of that, or something very different from it. Exaggerate the aspect, continue the pattern to absurdity. Clash unrelated ideas, replace an aspect with something that doesn't belong with the pattern, put the aspect into a pattern where it doesn't belong. Pattern 1 Celebrating a birthday party. Absurdified Aspect The birthday cake is made out of broccoli. Pattern 2 Eating broccoli to lose weight.	Take two associated patterns and combine them together. You can do that by "swapping" their aspects - take an aspect of one pattern and apply it to another one. Mix the two ideas, impose properties of one idea onto another one. Aspect Pattern 1 Aspect Pattern 2 Aspect Swap A funny idea can be expressed as a one-liner joke, exchange of dialogue, idea for a comedy sketch, a comics, a tweet, etc. Pattern 1: President's Day Common Aspect: Holiday Pattern 2: Christmas Mix: Leaving milk and cookies for Lincoln.

Pattern 1	Aspect	Pattern 2	Mix Patterns

Comedy Sketches

[How Comedy Sketches Work]

Situation Association	Unusual Thing	Justify	Heighten
To create a situation, you need to define 3 things - Who, Where, and What. [Characters] in a [Location] doing [Action] Take an aspect of the situation (character, location, or an action), and associate it to the most different, unrelated situation you can think of. Player 1 Old lady shopping at a supermarket. Player 2 (take an aspect - "shopping", and associate it to something entirely different) A junkie buying meth in an alley.	Take an aspect of the situation, and make it unusual, unexpected, weird, interesting, surprising, absurd. You can reverse it, exaggerate it, replace it with something unrelated, combine it with something it doesn't belong with. You can take an aspect of the previously mentioned situation, and apply it to this situation. Situation Celebrating a birthday party at a restaurant. Unusual Thing (take a character aspect - "waiter", and make it unusual) The waiter is secretly a serial killer.	Come up with a justification for an absurdity, rationalize it, explain it, make it make sense. Or think of a different situation where the absurd aspect would make more sense. If this is true, then why is it true? Situation A group of friends are ordering a pizza at a restaurant, and the waiter blows on the pizza to cool it down. Justification That's because this is a part of their customer service - treating clients as babies is how the waiters show that they really care about them.	Make the idea more absurd - escalate it, make it weirder, exaggerate it, take it farther away from the normal reality. You can heighten multiple times, until you've pushed the absurdity as far as you can. If this is true, then what else is true? Unusual Thing A group of friends are ordering a pizza at a restaurant, and the waiter blows on the pizza to cool it down. Heightenings The waiter tries to put on the bibs on them. To play "there comes an airplane" with them. Summons a waitress to breastfeed them.

Situations

Base Reality	Unusual Thing	Justify	Heighten
Ordinary Situation. [Characters] at a [location] doing [action].	What makes this situation unusual? Take one aspect, make it absurd.	Justify the absurdity. If the unusual thing is true, then why is it true?	Escalate the absurdity. If the unusual thing is true, then what else is true?