

What is a comedy of manners?

Writer: William Congreve | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

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A comedy of manners is a humorous play. It shows the habits and manners of rich people. It makes fun of their foolish ways. These plays talk about love, marriage, lies, and social rules. The language is full of jokes and clever talk. This kind of play was popular during the English Restoration period.

Focus on Society: This type of play shows the rich class of people. It talks about their daily life, fashion, and love affairs. These people often follow fake rules of society. Their talks are funny but not deep. The play laughs at their proud and silly nature.

Smart Dialogue: The most special part of a comedy of manners is its talk. The characters speak in short, funny, and clever lines. These lines are full of wit and sharp words. The people argue and tease each other with style.

Silly Characters: These plays have funny and fake people. Some are too proud. Some talk too much. Some love to gossip. Their names often show their nature, like **Mr. Tattle** or **Sir Fopling Flutter**. These names are funny and help the audience understand the role.

Examples: Here are five examples of comedy of manners:

- "The Way of the World: (1700) by William Congreve (1670-1729)
- "The Country Wife" (1675) by William Wycherley (1641-1716)
- "The Man of Mode" (1676) by Sir George Etherege (1636-1692)
- "The School for Scandal" (1777) by Richard Brinsley Sheridan (1751-1816)
- "The Importance of Being Earnest" (1895) by Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

In termination, a comedy of manners is both funny and smart. It shows the silly side of high society. It makes fun of love, fashion, and manners. These plays give joy but also teach lessons. They help us laugh at the proud and fake parts of life.