1. Parody of an aspect of the medical industry

KETTERING, OH—A comprehensive digital cataloging system that keeps track of its customers' car maintenance history, oil-change needs, and past fuel-filter replacements puts Karl's Lube & Go's computerized record- keeping an estimated six years ahead of the medical industry's, sources confirmed Friday. "We figured that a basic database would help us with everything from scheduling regular appointments to predicting future lubrication requirements," said the proprietor of the local oil-change shop, Karl Lemke, who has no special logistical or programming skills, and who described his organizational methods, which are far more advanced than those of any hospital emergency room, as "basic, common-sense stuff." "We can even contact your insurance provider for you to see if you're covered and for how much, which means we can get to work on what's wrong without bothering you about it. The system not only saves me hundreds of thousands of dollars per year, but it saves my customers a bundle, too." Lemke added that he also routinely and politely inquires about his customers' health and well-being, which puts him roughly 145 years ahead of the medical industry.

The parody has exaggeration, a subtle/serious tone, and utilizes an excellent vehicle for comparison (oil changes). The author must have thought “if only the medical industry took as much interest in me as my oil mechanic does, we’d be in good shape.” Thus the birth of a parody

2. Parody of the toughness of hockey, how the sport overlooks the seriousness of concussions, etc.

PITTSBURGH—Following a Tuesday skate-around in which concussed team captain Sidney Crosby practiced for the first time since January, Penguins coach Dan Bylsma told reporters that his star player, who spent the majority of the press conference passed out and only occasionally woke up to vomit, is **progressing nicely** and should be back on the ice soon. "His recovery is **right on schedule**," Bylsma said as Crosby quietly slurred a complaint about how *bright the lights were, fell into a daze, and began convulsing*. "We're seeing some **definite signs of improvement**. We just have to keep at it until he can stand without assistance." Bylsma claimed the team could expect Crosby to return as early as next week, or when *he can remember who he is, where he is, and what hockey is, whichever comes first*

Bold: the dry exaggeration

Italics: exaggeration of some of the normal characteristics of a topic

TIP: choose a topic, list the characteristics of it, and then set about to go into hyperbole

3. A (tasteless) parody of West Virginia and their highly publicized mining disasters

CHARLESTON, WV—News that a fiery bus crash on Interstate 79 had killed 32 passengers was greeted with cheers and sighs of relief Friday, as West Virginia's 1.8 million residents gave thanks that their fellow citizens had perished in a catastrophe not involving a mine-shaft collapse, a mine explosion, or any other subterranean disaster. "This truly is a bright new beginning for our state," Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin said at a ceremony honoring the state's largest non-mining-related loss of life in a generation. "Today, we can all be proud to call ourselves West Virginians." A coroner's report later confirmed that 29 of the dead were miners returning home from work.

Now, write three short parodies of your own