



Oxymoron Activity

Directions: Read the following excerpts from literature. Write out the oxymoron in each sentence. Choose **one** oxymoron and give a detailed explanation of why it is an oxymoronic phrase. (Write at least three sentences for your explanation.)

1. “Down the close darkening lanes, they sang their way to the siding-shed, And lined the train with faces grimly gay.” – from the poem, “**The Send-Off**” (1921) by Wilfred Owen (1893 - 1918)
 2. “Parting is such sweet sorrow.”—from ***Romeo and Juliet*** by William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)
 3. “His honour rooted in dishonour stood, And faith unfaithful kept him falsely true.” (from the narrative poem, “**Idylls of the King**” (1859 - 1885) by Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809–1892)
- “I’m the most terrific liar you ever saw in your life. It’s awful. If I’m on my way to the store to buy a magazine, even, and somebody asks me where I’m going, I’m liable to say I’m going to the opera.”— Holden Caulfield, main character of ***The Catcher in the Rye*** (1951) by J. D. Salinger (1919 - 2010)