

Y8 Drama
End of Year Exam Revision

Theatre Maker	Role and responsibilities
Playwright	This is the name given to the person who writes the play.
Performer	A performer is an actor or entertainer who realises a role or performance in front of an audience.
Understudy	An actor who studies another's role so that they can take over when needed.
Lighting designer	The lighting designer is responsible for designing the lighting states and, if required, special lighting effects for a performance. The final design will result in a lighting plot which is a list of the lighting states and their cues.
Sound designer	The sound designer is responsible for designing the sound required for a performance. This may include underscoring, intro and outro music as well as specific effects. The final design will result in a sound plot which is a list of the sounds required and their cues.
Set designer	The set designer is responsible for the design of the set for a performance. They will work closely with the director and other designers so that there is unity between all the designs and the needs of the performance.
Costume designer	The person who designs the costumes for a performance. The costume department of a theatre is often called the wardrobe.
Puppet designer	The person who designs the puppets for a performance.
Technician	A person who works backstage either setting up technical equipment such as microphones or rigging lights before a production or operating technical equipment during a performance.
Director	A director is in charge of the artistic elements of a production. A director will often have the initial creative idea ('concept') for a production, will work with the actors in rehearsal, and will collaborate with designers and the technical team to realise this idea in performance.
Stage manager	The Stage Manager is in charge of all aspects of backstage, including the backstage crew. They will oversee everything that happens backstage before, during and after a performance. During the rehearsal period, the Stage Manager and their team will make sure that all props are found or made, scene changes are rehearsed and smooth, and all other aspects of backstage are prepared. They are also in charge of the rehearsal schedule.
Theatre manager	This is the person who is responsible for and manages the front-of-house team who deal with the audience during the production (for example, the box office manager, ushers and similar staff).

Section A – Staging Types

Proscenium Arch

A stage where the audience sits on one side only is called a **proscenium** arch stage, it has a proscenium arch over the stage which hides the equipment from the audience. The arc separates the audience from the stage and they can be sat quite far away.



In-the-round stage



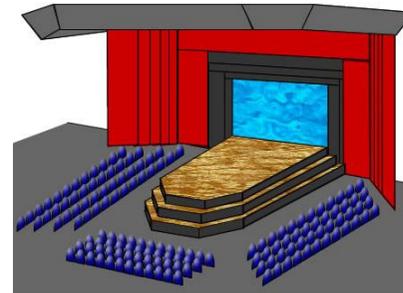
An **in-the-round** stage is positioned at the centre of the audience - ie there is audience around the whole stage. This type of stage creates quite an intimate atmosphere, and is good for drama that needs audience involvement. Actors need to change position frequently so ensure the audience can see a variety of facial expressions etc.

Traverse stage

A stage where the audience sits on two sides is called a **traverse** stage. Again, this type of stage is good for creating an intimate atmosphere. The stage almost resembles a corridor or catwalk and the actors enter from either end.



Thrust stage



The audience sits on 3 sides, the stage "thrusts" out into the audience, this is a good way to remember the name! Actor can be close to the audience which creates an intimate atmosphere.

Promenade Staging

This can also be called **site specific theatre** and is where a location is chosen to create a specific effect. This is effective in helping the audience experience the atmosphere of the characters. Promenade staging can change during the performance with the audience moving between performance spaces.



Key Vocabulary

Voice

Pace

Pause

Projection

Pitch

Tone

Emphasis

Inflection

Accent

Vocal
mannerisms

Movement

Posture

Pace

Hand
gestures

Mannerisms

Facial
expression

Levels

Proxemics

Eye contact

Gait (walk)

Words to use to analyse

- This will symbolise... about the character...
- This will convey....
- This will represent
- This will explain...
- This will show...



The Terrible fate of Humpty Dumpty Characters

- ⊙ Stubbs
- ⊙ Pete
- ⊙ Kathy
- ⊙ Sammy
- ⊙ Terry
- ⊙ Mrs Vickers
- ⊙ Mr Vickers
- ⊙ Ross Webster