

SECTION A-THEATRE ROLES AND TERMINOLGY

This section tests your knowledge of key theatre roles and terminology.

- It is worth 4 marks in total.
- There will be 4 multiple-choice questions.
- You **must** answer all of them — if unsure, make an educated guess.
- Spend no more than 5 minutes on this section.

Theatre Roles and Responsibilities

- **Playwright** - Writes the script, including dialogue, stage directions, and characters.
- **Performer** - Acts out the role using vocal and physical skills to bring the character to life.
- **Understudy** - Learns another actor's role and performs if the main actor is absent.
- **Lighting Designer** - Designs and controls lighting to create atmosphere, focus, and mood.
- **Sound Designer** - Creates and manages sound effects and music to enhance the performance.
- **Set Designer** - Plans and designs the stage space, scenery, and props to show setting and time period.
- **Costume Designer** - Designs and chooses costumes that reflect character, style, and era.
- **Puppet Designer** - Designs and creates puppets that fit the production's style and characters.
- **Technician** - Operates and maintains technical equipment such as lighting, sound, and effects.
- **Director** - Oversees the artistic vision; guides performers and designers to bring the play to life.
- **Stage Manager** - Organises rehearsals, coordinates backstage activity, and ensures performances run smoothly.
- **Theatre Manager** - Manages the venue, staff, audience safety, and overall running of the theatre.

STAGE TYPES

End-on



End-on- When the audience sit on one side of the stage only, facing it in the same direction.

Proscenium arch



Proscenium Arch- A traditional theatre stage with a large "frame" or arch that surrounds a stage space. The apron is the section of the stage that extends forward, past the proscenium arch, closer to the audience.

Thrust



Thrust- When the audience surround the stage on three sides,

STAGE TYPES**Traverse**

Traverse- The audience sits on two opposite sides, like a catwalk. Actors must play to both sides equally.

In the round

In the round- When the audience are placed all around the outside of the performers' playing space. The stage area may be circular or square, with entrances and exits through the audience.



Promenade- When the audience can move around and follow the action during a performance.

STAGE POSITIONS

Stage positions help actors and directors plan movement, blocking, and focus on stage. They are always described from the **actor's point of view, facing the audience**.

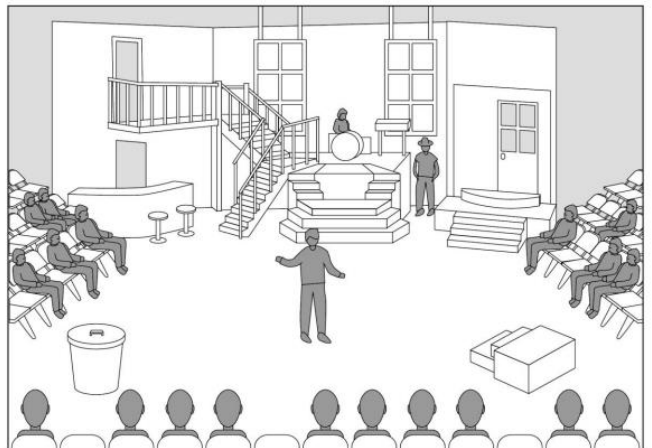
Downstage= Closer down towards the audience

Upstage= Further up and away from the audience

UPSTAGE RIGHT	UPSTAGE CENTRE	UPSTAGE LEFT
STAGE RIGHT	CENTRE STAGE	STAGE LEFT
DOWNSTAGE RIGHT	DOWNSTAGE CENTRE	DOWNSTAGE LEFT



Figure 1

**Practice questions**

1. What type of staging is shown in figure 1?
2. What is the stage position of the dustbin in figure 1?
3. What is the stage position of the actor in figure 1?