

Parts of a Theater Resource Sheet #3 (page 1) Name _____

Hour _____

PARTS OF THE THEATER

It's important to note, before we get started, that different theaters sometimes have slightly different names for things. Your teacher will tell you what terminology is used in your theater.

The place where the audience sits during a play is called the _____.

The Edison has seating in the _____, down here, and in the _____ above.

At the very back of the auditorium is the _____.

This is where the sound technicians run all the sound effects and sound reinforcement during a show. The sound techs need to hear what the audience hears, in order to make corrections and tweak sound levels during a show.

One flight up, behind the balcony, is the _____. This is where the _____ technicians control the lights, and the _____ calls the cues for the show over intercom. Many theaters have the _____ backstage during a show. It's just a matter of preference for every theater. In either case, the Stage Manager is in communication with the technicians and actors via _____.

Another flight up is the _____, or _____ lighting position. Electricians hang, plug, focus and gel lighting instruments that light the downstage areas from here. Once the electricians are finished here, this area is vacated, unless there is a problem like a burned out lamp, or a malfunctioning lighting instrument.

Heading towards the stage, we see the lighting positions on the sides of the proscenium. These lighting positions are called _____, or _____.

Next, we find the _____. During a musical, it is usually all the way down, so the audience doesn't see the _____.

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The stage opening is called the _____, the name of this type of stage. Just upstage of the proscenium is where the _____ normally is. A _____ is a huge curtain made of fire resistant material that quickly seals off the entire proscenium opening in case of a fire onstage. It will keep a fire onstage from spreading into the audience, and gives the audience time to escape, in case of an emergency.

The curtain that can close off almost the entire stage from the audience is called the _____, or the _____. In smaller theaters, the main curtain usually opens to the sides. It is sometimes called the Act Curtain because it can _____ at the start of each act, and _____ at the end of each act.

The area between the main curtain and the orchestra pit is called the _____. It is the only area of the stage that can't be closed off by the Main Curtain.

Moving upstage further, if we look overhead we see a large open space with pipes, curtains, and lighting instruments hanging in the air. This is called the _____, the _____, or the _____. It is a place to hide things we don't want the audience to see.

In the fly space, we see places to hang and plug in lighting instruments. These lighting positions over the stage are called the _____.

Also in the fly space, we see empty pipes, or _____. These pipes can be lowered and raised like the electrics, but are used to hang scenery in the air until it is needed. Then the scenery is flown in and out. This is done with the _____, which is a series of weights, pipes and ropes used to hang, counter-balance, and fly scenery, curtains, and electrics in and out of sight of the audience.

Anyone using a counterweight system needs to be trained by a _____. It can be a DANGEROUS thing to use if you don't know what you're doing.

The curtain just upstage from the main curtain is the _____, or _____. It hides everything in the flies from the audience's view.

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The rest of the curtains that hide the fly space from the audience are called _____, or _____.

Looking back at stage level, we see the off-stage area where scenery can be stored until it is needed. This is called the _____. In the wing area stage right is the _____. If the stage manager calls the show from the control booth, the assistant stage manager stays here, on headset, to take directions from the stage manager.

_____ hide the wing area from the audience, and the first set of legs are called the _____.

Curtains that can close off part of the stage from the audience's view are called _____. There are usually at least 2 travelers on a stage... a _____ to close off the upstage area of the stage, and hide scenery getting pre-set for the next scene..... and an _____ to give a neutral background that matches the rest of the curtains.

A _____ is a large backdrop that is the last curtain. It hangs just far enough from the upstage wall to allow actors to walk behind it, to get from one side of the stage to the other. It is often _____, so it can be turned different colors just by shining different colors of light on it.

A large piece of painted fabric, much like the cyc, but painted to resemble some thing or some place, is called a _____, or _____.

A specialty curtain that looks a lot like a cyc is called a _____. It is made of a _____ material that looks solid when lit from the front... and transparent when lit from the rear. It is used a lot when instant appearances and exits need to be made. It's also used to give a hazy, foggy effect that can go away instantly, unlike chemical fog which takes a while to dissipate.

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If a table lamp is used in the play, it would be really inconvenient to run an extension cord up to one of the electrics. Anything used close to floor level is plugged into _____ . These are lighting outlet in the stage floor itself.

The _____ is the nerve center of a theater. One of the first things you learn in theater is to look at the call board several times a day. Rehearsal schedules, tech schedules, sign-up sheets, and all theater related messages are posted there.

The _____ is where the carpenters build the sets, and the scenic artists paint them.

The _____ is where costumes are cut out, sewn, and fitted to each actor.

The _____ is where the actors hang out when they're not on-stage for an extended time. There is a feed from the sound system in here so they can hear the actors on stage as well as the stage manager calling warnings to get in place for their upcoming scenes.

The _____ are where the actors change clothes, do make-up, and get ready to perform.