

Introduction to Theatre I U01

altar	Place for religious ceremony or to honor the gods.
chorus	In ancient Greek drama, a group of performers who sang and danced, sometimes participating in the action but usually just commenting on it.
comedy	Dramatic form, broad in range, typically with a happy ending, light in tone, concerned with non-serious issues and designed to amuse and provoke laughter.
Dionysus	A god of joyful and intense emotions; he is associated with wine and wild behavior. Dionysus was the son of the chief god, Zeus, but his mother, Semele, was human.
mask	Covering for the face or part of the face, to conceal or disguise the identity.
monologue	Speech or dramatic sketch performed by one actor.
orchestra	Semicircular space in front of the stage used by the chorus.
parados	Space between the skene and audience, where the chorus entered.
paraskenia	Side-wings of the skene.
satyr play	A comic play of ancient Greece burlesquing a mythological subject and having a chorus representing satyrs (<i>a woodland spirit with horse's tail and ears</i>).
skene	Building behind stage to house actors, props and costumes.
theatre	Dramatic representation as an art or profession.
theatron	Area of seating, in a semi-circular shape with rows of seats rising up the slope.
thespian	Actor, from the tradition that Thespis was the first actor.
tragedy	Dramatic form which involves a serious action of universal significance and important moral and philosophical implications.