

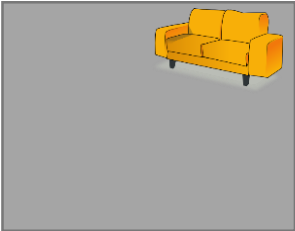


End on staging is similar to proscenium stage, as the audience is seated along one end of the stage, directly facing it. However, it doesn't have the large frame/arch.

Advantages:
 The audience have a similar view.
 Stage pictures are easy to create.
 Large backdrops and projections can be used.

End-on Stage ↑

Where is the sofa placed?
Upstage left



Proscenium arch is a common form of theatre, popular for large theatres. The proscenium refers to the frame around the stage, which emphasises that the whole audience is seeing the same picture. The area in front of the arch is called an apron.

Advantages: Same as end on.



Proscenium Arch ↑

Disadvantages:
 Audience members in the back rows may feel distant from the stage.
 It doesn't have the frame of a proscenium arch which can enhance some stages.

Disadvantages:
 Audience members in the back rows may feel distant from the stage.
 The auditorium could seem very formal and rigid.
 Audience interaction may be difficult.

Stage Directions and Stage Types

Upstage Right	Upstage Centre	Upstage Left
Centre Right	Centre Stage	Centre Left
Downstage Right	Downstage Centre	Downstage Left



To promenade means 'to walk' and promenade theatre is when the audience stand or follow the actors through their performance.



Promenade

Advantages:
 This is an interactive and exciting type of theatre where the audience may feel involved.

Disadvantages:
 The audience may find moving around the space difficult or get tired of standing.
 Actors or crew need to be skilled at moving the audience around and controlling their focus.
 There can be health and safety risks.

Advantages:
 The audience is close to the stage and there is an extended first row.
 The actors enter and exit through the audience, which can make the audience feel more engaged.

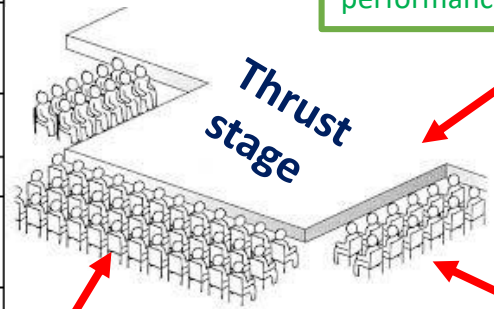
Disadvantages:
 Designers cannot use backdrops as it would obscure the view of the audience.
 Stage furniture has to be chosen carefully so that sightlines are not blocked.
 Actors have to keep moving around so the audience do not miss important pieces of action.

Theatre in the round is a staging configuration when the audience are seated around all sides of the stage.



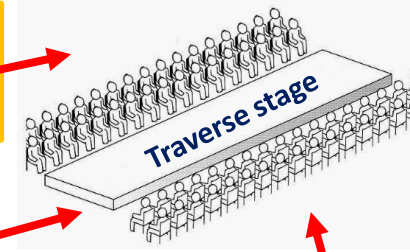
Theatre in the round

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).



On a traverse stage the acting area is a long, central space with the audience on either side facing each other.

Advantages: The audience may feel close to the stage as there are two extended front rows. They can see the reactions of the other side, who are facing them. This would work well for audience interaction. Sometimes, extreme ends of the stage can be used for extra performance space.



Disadvantages: Bid pieces of scenery, backdrops or set can block sightlines. The acting area is long and thin so can limit travel and actions. Actors must keep turning so both sides can see the performance. Lighting can be difficult, it needs careful consideration so it is not directed into the audiences eyes.

A thrust stage protrudes into the audience with the audience on three sides. This is one of the oldest stage types.

Disadvantages: Sightlines for those on extreme ends may be limited or obstructed. The audience on the right and left of the stage have each other in their view. Box sets (where three sides of a room is constructed) will block sightlines.

Advantages: Can use large back drop, there are three front rows, audience interaction may be easier.

Stage Types and Theatre Roles

Key information about Section A of the written paper:

- Multiple Choice
- 4 questions – 4 marks

Example question:
In the professional theatre, if a performer is unable to perform, who should go in their place to play the role instead?

1. The Stage Manager
2. The Theatre Manager
3. The Understudy

