

Advanced Drama and Theatre Knowledge

Drama & Theatre · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek playwright is credited with introducing the second actor to the stage, thereby reducing the reliance on the chorus?

- A) Sophocles
- B) Aeschylus**
- C) Euripides
- D) Aristophanes

2. In technical theatre, what is the specific term for a batten that has been rigged to move vertically and is used to fly scenery or lighting equipment?

- A) Cyclorama
- B) Counterweight system
- C) Electric
- D) Line set**

3. The theatrical movement 'Epic Theatre', pioneered by Bertolt Brecht, utilizes the 'Verfremdungseffekt'. What is the literal translation of this term?

- A) Alienation effect**
- B) Cathartic release
- C) Breaking the fourth wall
- D) Shadow performance

4. Which Italian theatrical form, popular from the 16th to the 18th centuries, was characterized by improvised performances based on stock characters and standard scenarios?

- A) Opera Buffa
- B) Commedia dell'arte**
- C) Verismo
- D) Farsa

5. What is the primary function of a 'gobo' in professional stage lighting design?

- A) To diffuse light
- B) To change the color of a beam
- C) To create a patterned projection**
- D) To focus the beam of a spotlight

6. In the context of Japanese Noh theatre, what is the raised wooden walkway used by performers to enter and exit the stage called?

- A) Hanamichi
- B) Hashigakari**
- C) Butai
- D) Kurogo

7. Who wrote the 1952 absurdist play 'Waiting for Godot', a cornerstone of the Theatre of the Absurd?

- A) Samuel Beckett**
- B) Eugène Ionesco
- C) Jean Genet
- D) Harold Pinter

8. What is the term for a lighting instrument that produces a soft-edged beam and typically uses a fresnel lens?

- A) Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight
- B) Parabolic Aluminized Reflector
- C) Fresnel Lantern**
- D) Followspot

9. In a standard proscenium theatre, what is the 'apron' of the stage?

- A) The area behind the back curtain
- B) The area between the proscenium arch and the audience**
- C) The frame surrounding the stage
- D) The storage area for props

10. Which playwright is famously associated with the 'Moscow Art Theatre' and the development of the 'system' of acting that emphasizes psychological realism?

- A) Anton Chekhov
- B) Konstantin Stanislavski**
- C) Maxim Gorky
- D) Vsevolod Meyerhold