

History of Drama and Theatre

Theatre History · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with the invention of formal theatre in the 6th century BCE?

- A) Ancient Greece**
- B) Ancient Egypt
- C) Ancient Rome
- D) Ancient China

2. In Elizabethan theatre, which famous venue was associated with William Shakespeare?

- A) The Lyceum
- B) The Globe**
- C) The Palladium
- D) The Royal Albert

3. What is the traditional name for the semi-circular seating area in a Greek theatre?

- A) Proscenium
- B) Orchestra
- C) Theatron**
- D) Parodos

4. Which form of Japanese theatre, originating in the 17th century, is known for its elaborate makeup and stylized performances?

- A) Noh
- B) Bunraku
- C) Kyogen
- D) Kabuki**

5. What was the primary purpose of the chorus in early Greek tragedies?

- A) To sell tickets
- B) To provide narration and commentary**
- C) To design the costumes
- D) To build the stage sets

6. The Commedia dell'arte, which emerged in Italy during the 16th century, is best known for its use of what?

- A) Improvised scenarios and stock characters**
- B) Pre-written epic poetry
- C) Silent mime only
- D) Religious chanting

7. In the 18th century, which country pioneered the 'Sentimental Comedy' style of playwriting?

A) England

B) Russia

C) Brazil

D) Egypt

8. Who is often cited as the father of modern realism in drama for plays like 'A Doll's House'?

A) Oscar Wilde

B) Henrik Ibsen

C) Moliere

D) Sophocles