

YEAR 7- TERM THREE- KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Key Vocabulary

Term	Definition
Chorus	A group of performers who function as a commentary on action or as an accompaniment to the action
Choragos	The head chorus member who could enter the story as a character able to interact with the characters of the play
Comedy	One of the two principal dramatic forms of theatre in ancient Greece
Orchestra	'Dancing place' flat terrace where the chorus performed
Skene	Changing hut which eventually became the backdrop
Theatron	Slope, watching place, from which the word 'theatre' derived
Thespian	A common term for performer
Tragedy	One of the two principal dramatic forms of theatre in ancient Greece
Parodos	The entrances and exits used by the chorus and the actors
Clocking	When the actor wearing a mask stops to make eye contact with the audience

Origins of Greek Theatre

Greek Theatre began in the 6th Century BCE in Athens with the performance of tragedy plays at religious festivals. These in turn inspired the genre of Greek comedy plays. The two types of Greek drama would be hugely popular and performances spread around the Mediterranean.

Aeschylus and Sophocles were the two most famous Greek playwrights.

Some of the most popular Greek plays have been extensively studied as part of our education. These include: **Oedipus Rex** by Sophocles, **Prometheus Bound** by Aeschylus, **Antigone** by Sophocles, **Medea** by Euripedes, **The Persians** by Aeschylus and **Ajax** by Sophocles.

Greek Mythology

Greek Myths were not just stories, they were models for human behaviour. They taught people how to live, the consequences of right and wrong. Though they were told via worlds and gods and kings, many of the myths apply to everyday people and everyday life.

Always Remember

Never perform with your back to the audience



Your expressions and your emotions must match!



Your work can always be improved



Make sure your voice is loud and clear



For Choral Speaking to be effective everyone must speak at the same time but you can experiment with how.

Always try and put yourself in the shoes of the character you are playing. This will make your character more convincing



Focus, focus, focus!



Always listen to the ideas of others as well as voicing your own



Greek Theatre is the root of performance as we know it now



Women were not allowed to perform in Greek times



The chorus was an integral part of all Greek theatre performances

You were banned from showing death on stage in a Greek Play

Mask Work



The famous drama masks originated from Greek Theatre

The audience could distinguish between the characters more easily and the type of play being performed.

They were mostly made out of light materials like leather, wood or cork.

It was considered unprofessional to reveal yourself to the spectators when changing your mask.

Do not put on or take off your mask facing the audience.

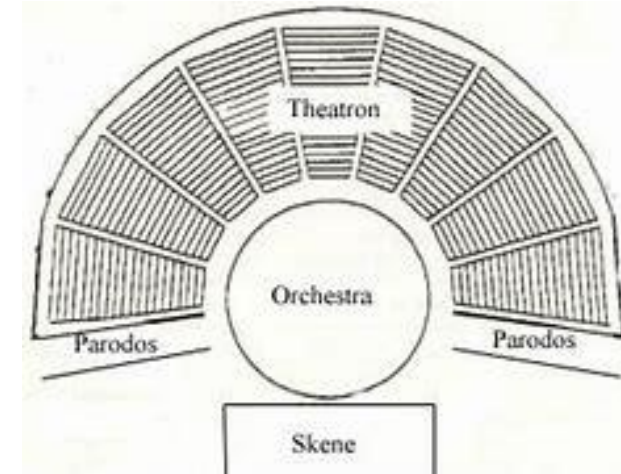
Do not touch your mask once it is on.

Always 'clock' your audience.

Always make sure your voice is loud and clear, words are pronounced properly and you face your audience when speaking.

Make sure you exaggerate all your actions and movements.

Dual Coding



Check your progress...

Do your expressions always match the character's emotions?

Do you take on board the ideas of others?

Do you think creatively and include your own ideas in script work?

Is your interpretation appropriate to the meaning?