

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Study Guide - 2nd Quarter

## Section One – DIRECTING

1. What is the role of the Director? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In order to analyze \_\_\_\_\_, the director collects information and then assimilates it in a manner that reveals a character's motivations. He reads the play looking for clues as to the physical, psychological, and environmental factors for each character.
3. In the process of analyzing theme, plot and characterization, the director becomes familiar with \_\_\_\_\_. He must look at specific aspects of \_\_\_\_\_ such as speech patterns. Are there more long speeches or short? Are they descriptive or introspective? These discoveries will help the director coach actors.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a sketch or blueprint of the doors, windows, fireplaces, furniture or any other set piece called for by the script, usually drawn to scale.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ will contain the director's reflections during script analysis. The director then visualizes the script in action.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the closest assistant to the Director, will have taken part in all of the Design Consultation meetings, and will be responsible for recording all of the final blocking and technical cues into the prompt book.

### Write the letter that corresponds to the correct blocking shorthand:

- |                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. X =          | A. Enter number one entrance        |
| 8. X5 =         | B. Cross, usually two or more steps |
| 9. EnU =        | C. Enter, using upstage entrance    |
| 10. ExR         | D. rise, cross to chair number 2    |
| 11. XDR table = | E. Exit right stage                 |
| 12. XDRC =      | F. Cross down right center          |
| 13. chL table = | G. sit in chair left of table       |
| 14. ^ Xch2 =    | H. Cross, five steps                |
| 15. EnL1 =      | I. Cross to down right of table     |

---

16 – 24 Label a Stage Map Below


Audience

---

## Part Two – The Role of the Audience

25. Describe, in your own words, the relationship between the Actor and the Audience, detail why it is necessary in the theatre.

26. What is Aesthetic Distance?

27. What are the 8 Rules for Audience Etiquette? \_\_\_\_\_

28. Define Symbolism

29. Give Two examples of Symbols we see everyday

- a.
- b.

30. Define Metaphor

31. Give Two examples of metaphors you use in common speech every day

- a.
- b.

32. Describe in what way or ways Theatre is a Metaphor for Life

33. Define Willing Suspension of Disbelief

### **Part Three – Dramatic Structure**

34. What are the three ingredients, that when mixed properly, create a Drama?

- a. .
- b. .
- c. .

35. A play usually begins with the \_\_\_\_\_ which presents characters and setting and introduces the basic situation in which the characters are involved. \_\_\_\_\_ provides necessary background information about the characters and their circumstances. It explains what has gone on before, the relationships between characters, the development of a theme, and the introduction of a conflict.

36. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the initial action or conflict that sets off a series of conflicts or events.

37. During the \_\_\_\_\_ the action builds in intensity. It is during this portion of the drama that complications develop, conflicts emerge, suspense build, and crises occur.

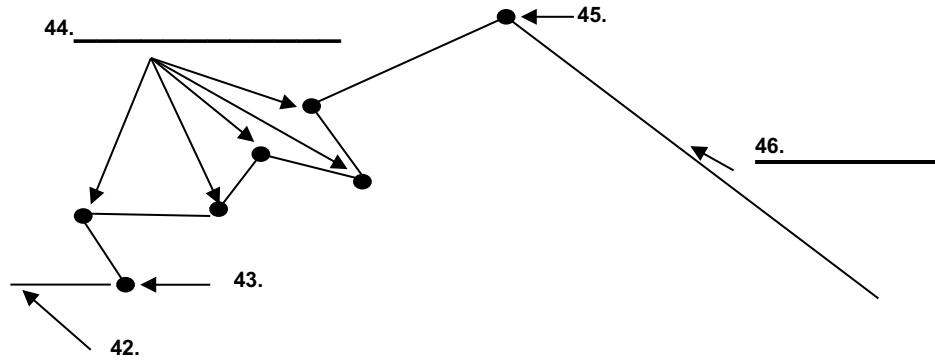
38. The rising action ends in a \_\_\_\_\_ that is the point at which the plays tension peaks.

39. \_\_\_\_\_ is the action that occurs between the climax and the final curtain.  
During this portion the intensity of the story subsides.

40. What is the Diagram on the following page Called? \_\_\_\_\_

41. What question do you ask if you want a summary of the plot?

42 – 46: Label the Diagram Below



47. What Question should you ask yourself to discover the theme?

48. Define Theme:

49. What are the two types of characters? Define each.

a.

b.

#### Part Four - Acting

50. What is acting? \_\_\_\_\_

51. Which of the following is not part of the evolution of acting? \_\_\_\_\_

52. What is the First Responsibility of an Actor? \_\_\_\_\_

53. Acting is a by-product of what? \_\_\_\_\_

54. What are Given Circumstances? \_\_\_\_\_

55. What is the Second Responsibility of an Actor? \_\_\_\_\_

56. What is the Back Story?

57. A speech an actor gives alone on the stage is called \_\_\_\_\_

#### Part Five – Types and Styles of Theatre

58. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the oldest types of Drama. It has been with us since the days of the Great Greek Playwrights Sophocles, Aeschylus, and Euripedes. In general usage, \_\_\_\_\_ means something like *very sad*, but in the study of drama it has a much more specific meaning.

59. \_\_\_\_\_ is a more general term, applied to any play that has a happy ending - even if the play isn't funny.

60. \_\_\_\_\_ is a general category for plays about serious subjects. Character development and theme are usually more important than plot.

61. \_\_\_\_\_ is the category for plays about serious subjects where plot is more important than characters and theme. Characters tend to be rather flat, and they don't change or develop during the course of the play. Murder mysteries and suspense thrillers fit into this category.

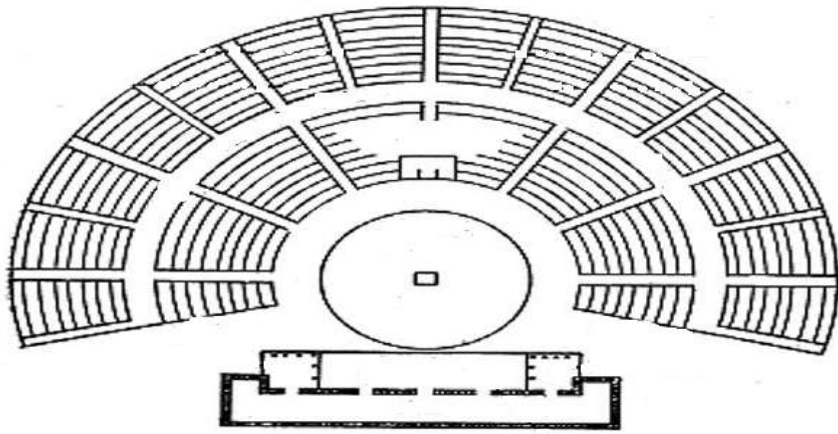
62. \_\_\_\_\_ is the "soap opera" category. Serious subjects are treated in a serious manner; plot and character are more important than theme. There is usually a heavy emphasis on the emotions of the characters.

63. \_\_\_\_\_ is often called "low comedy." The emphasis is almost entirely on plot, with bawdy jokes and physical humor. Elements of farce include such things as *chases*, *disguises*, *talking at cross purposes*, and *slapstick* (pratfalls, slipping on banana peels, etc.).

64. \_\_\_\_\_ is a "high comedy" category. The emphasis is on the cleverness and witty dialog of the characters, who are usually members of the upper class.
65. \_\_\_\_\_ is also considered to be high comedy. In \_\_\_\_\_, the playwright pokes fun at social customs and current fashions - sometimes including specific individuals of the times - perhaps in some effort to change the current thought and behavior.
66. \_\_\_\_\_ is a specific form of satire in which a very familiar play/song/movie/etc.. is recreated in a humorous way, poking fun at the original version.
67. \_\_\_\_\_ is possibly America's only original contribution to dramatic literature. It features spoken dialog combined with songs and dances - and since *Oklahoma!* by Rogers and Hammerstein, the songs are integrated into the action, a real change from the older operetta form.
68. \_\_\_\_\_ is the serious counterpart of satire. Current social problems are examined in a serious manner. Modern serious plays dealing with homelessness for example, or drug addiction, or child abuse, or teen violence would fit within this category, if their intent seems to be to change prevailing attitudes and policies.
69. \_\_\_\_\_ is based on the belief that life should be portrayed as it truly is, without exaggeration. Very focused on the idea that people's thoughts and feelings, and their reactions to the world around them, shape their destiny.
70. Dramatic \_\_\_\_\_ was founded by Emile Zola, a French novelist and playwright. He called for a new \_\_\_\_\_ style of theater. By this he meant the depiction of humanity as controlled by science and nature rather than gods, spirits, or free will. Thus naturalism dealt with scientific accuracy in it's portrayal of human life. By replicating scientific specifics of the environment, they believed that the audience would have a deeper understanding of the forces acting on characters.
71. \_\_\_\_\_ contains elements of many other types. It is usually defined by its underlying theme of the meaningless nature (or absurdity) of life. Often, the very structure of the play reinforces this idea

## Part Six – Ancient Theatre

72. Greek Theatre began as a celebration of the God of food and wine \_\_\_\_\_.
73. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote about men.
74. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote about heroes.
75. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote about Gods.
76. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote old comedy.
82. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote new comedy.
83. \_\_\_\_\_ — \_\_\_\_\_ invented acting by designating a member of the chorus to step outside of the chorus to speak.
84. What are were the origins of theatre?
85. Tragedy is translated as \_\_\_\_\_ song.
86. The 5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. was known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Age of Greece.
87. Actors changed costumes in a building called the \_\_\_\_\_.
88. How did three people play all of the parts in Greek Theatre?
89. \_\_\_\_\_ - triangular prisms which could be pivoted to reveal three different backgrounds.
90. *All violence must take place* \_\_\_\_\_, out of sight of the audience.
91. \_\_\_\_\_ — \_\_\_\_\_ (god from the machine) was used as a device to conveniently assist the human characters in solving their problems by divine intervention, and the phrase is still used to indicate a fortuitous event or coincidence which happens at just the right time to save someone (in a play or in life) from disaster.



## Part Seven – Improvisation

97. One of the most basic improvisation-related terms to learn is " \_\_\_\_\_," which refers to the "who," "what," and "where" of a scene.
98. An " \_\_\_\_\_" is any verbal or physical suggestion made by another actor.
99. To " \_\_\_\_\_" refers to the act of accepting an idea offered by a fellow actor, and then exploring the natural consequences of that idea.
100. In improvisation, " \_\_\_\_\_" refers to the act of rejecting information or ideas offered by another performer, and, " \_\_\_\_\_," is the act of one performer making the actions of another performer irrelevant.
101. " \_\_\_\_\_" is the act of making sure that the audience's attention is only in one place at any given moment.
102. Why should you forget the audience?

Name the 3 of the 5 ways to make a successful Improv (things to consider while on stage).

103.

104.

105.

106. What is an example of improvisation used as a form of instant entertainment?

What are the three ways improvisation is used in the theatre?

107.

108.

109.

110. Define Improvisation