

Year 9 Drama Knowledge Organiser – Term 2

What will I learn about this Term?

- In this unit, you will develop your knowledge of the different stage types and will look at set and costume design.
- You will research the different types of stages and will create a design for a specific production.
- You will be assessed on the skills that you have learnt and your designs.



The Portsmouth Academy

Key Vocabulary

Types of Stage

End-on – When the audience sit on one side of the stage only, facing it in the same direction.

Proscenium Arch – End-on staging in an older style theatre with a decorative arch framing the whole stage (called the proscenium arch).

In The Round – Also known as Arena staging. When the audience are all around the performance space. The stage area may be any shape with entrances and exits through the audience.

Thrust – When the audience surround the stage on three sides, and the other side connects to the backstage area.

Traverse – When the audience are on either side of the actors' stage, facing each other.

Promenade – The audience stand and walk, following the action of the performance.

Key Words

Black Box – A versatile studio space that is painted black.

Site Specific – Where the production is created to be performed in a specific location, eg an outside space or car park.

Raked – Sloped at an upwards angle. It can refer to the stage, with the rake towards the rear of the stage, or to the audience, with the rake furthest away from the stage.

Forth Wall - An imaginary wall between the audience and the actors to help establish the illusion of reality.

Apron – The part of the stage that extends past the arch towards the audience.

Backdrop – A hung drop or wall at the back of the stage that can be painted or projected on.

