Yr9

GCSE Drama transition

Please purchase a copy of the following play and read it:

‘Around the World in Eighty Days’

adapted by Laura Eason

ISBN: 978 1 84842 517 0



Around the World in 80 Days is the set text you will be studying for GCSE Drama. Please take a look at the following websites to help you gain a better understanding of the play and its style:

- Full production of Around the World in 80 Days
- https://youtu.be/CAIotVLkxRw

- New Vic Premier website page with photos and interview with the actors
- http://www.newvictheatre.org.uk/productions/around-the-world-in-eighty-days/

- New Vic Trailer
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTGW9ppg2sY
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=348Djyoxsqs

- Production photos Royal Exchange / Liverpool Everyman Theatre
- https://www.flickr.com/photos/rxtheatre/14510518962/in/photostream/
- https://www.everymanplayhouse.com/whats-more/tag/around-the-world-in-80-days

- St James Theatre set
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cLFIpP9VwI (time lapse build)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgEjN9voQTo (conveyor belt)

- Guardian review & video of cast interview
- https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2017/jul/02/around-the-world-in-80-days-review-worlds-stage-laura-eason

- What's On Stage review (Cadogan Hall) – plus photo gallery
- https://www.whatsonstage.com/bath-theatre/reviews/around-the-world-in-80-days-cadogan-hall_44308.html

- British Theatre Guide Review
- https://www.britishtheatreguide.info/reviews/jules-vernes-cadogan-hall-lo-14665

- Press Quotes
- https://www.broadwayplaypub.com/the-plays/around-the-world-in-80-days/

- Other Productions
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvTAwFNlAaM

We recommend that you watch the full production of ***Around the World in 80 Days*** ***You can also*** listen to the BBC audio dramatisation of the original story.

watch the full theatre production here:
https://youtu.be/CAIotVLkxRw

Listen to the BBC audio dramatisation here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrlDZ8Wjlhg

You will need to learn the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers, such as:

- playwright
- Performer
- Understudy
- Lighting designer
- Sound designer
- Set designer
- Costume designer
- Puppet designer
- Technician
- Director
- Stage manager
- Theatre manager

There is a list of the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers on the following slides:

- Read through these carefully and then try covering the definitions with your hand and see if you can remember the wording.

- Print out the slides and cut out each of the roles and definitions. Mix these up and then see if you can match them up correctly.

Theatre Maker	Role and responsibilities
Playwright	This is the name given to the person who writes the play.
Performer	A performer is an actor or entertainer who realises a role or performance in front of an audience.
Understudy	An actor who studies another's role so that they can take over when needed.
Lighting designer	This person is responsible for designing the lighting states and, if required, special lighting effects for a performance. The final design will result in a lighting plot which is a list of the lighting states and their cues.
Sound designer	This person is responsible for designing the sound required for a performance. This may include underscoring, intro and outro music as well as specific effects. The final design will result in a sound plot which is a list of the sounds required and their cues.
Set designer	This person is responsible for the design of the set for a performance. They will work closely with the director and other designers so that there is unity between all the designs and the needs of the performance.

Costume designer	The person who designs the costumes for a performance. The costume department of a theatre is often called a wardrobe.
Puppet designer	The person who designs the puppets for a performance.
Technician	A person who works backstage either setting up technical equipment such as microphones or rigging lights before a production or operating technical equipment during a performance.
Director	This person is in charge of the artistic elements of a production. They will often have the initial creative idea (or “concept”) for a production, will work with the actors in rehearsal, and will collaborate with designers and the technical team to realise this idea in performance.
Stage manager	This person is in charge of all aspects of backstage, including the backstage crew. They will oversee everything that happens backstage before, during and after a performance. During the rehearsal period, this person and their team will make sure that all props are found or made, scene changes are rehearsed and smooth, and all other aspects of backstage are prepared. They are also in charge of the rehearsal schedule.
Theatre manager	This is the person who is responsible for and manages the front-of-house team who deal with the audience during the production (for example, the box office manager, ushers and similar staff).

You will also need to understand drama and theatre terminology and how to use it appropriately:

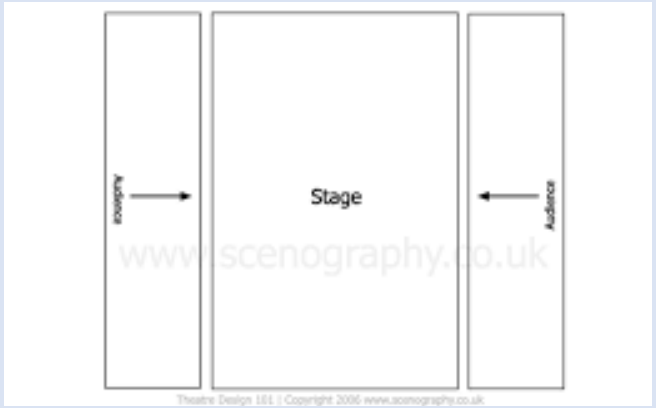
STAGE POSITIONING:

- Upstage (left, right, centre)
- Downstage (left, right, centre)
- Centre stage

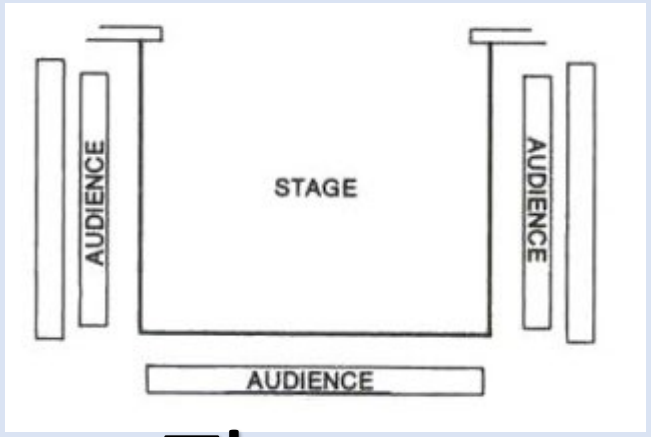
STAGING CONFIGURATION:

- Theatre in the round
- Proscenium arch
- Thrust stage
- Traverse
- End on staging
- promenade

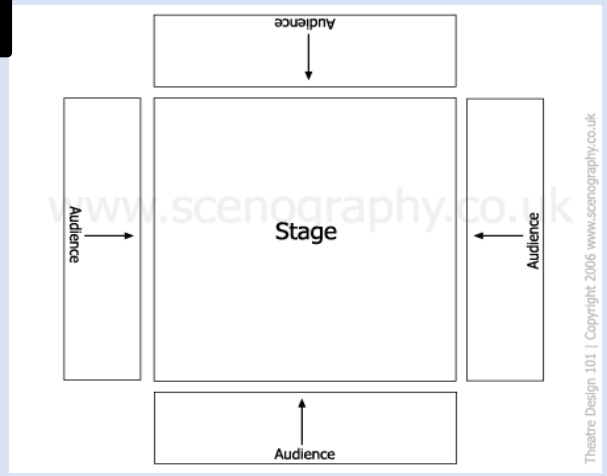
STAGING CONFIGURATION



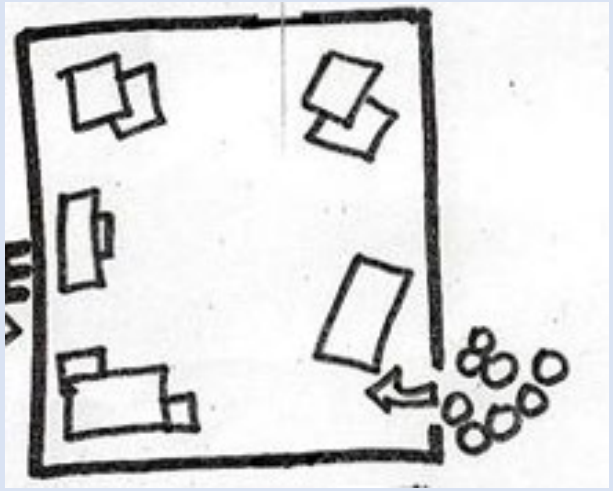
Traverse



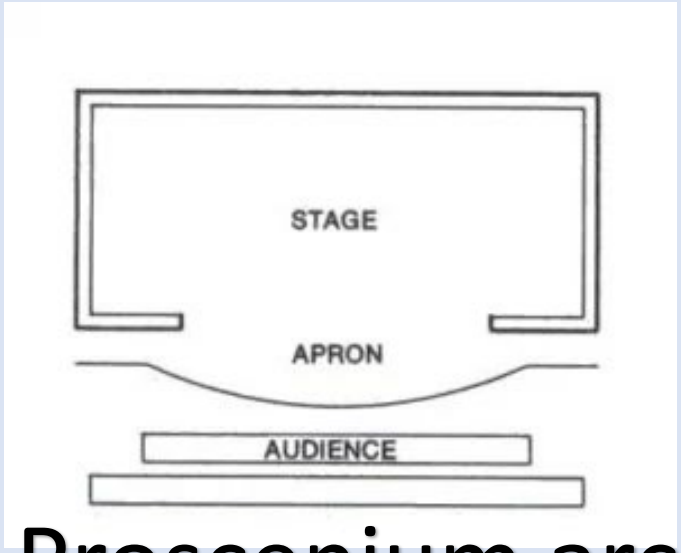
Thrust



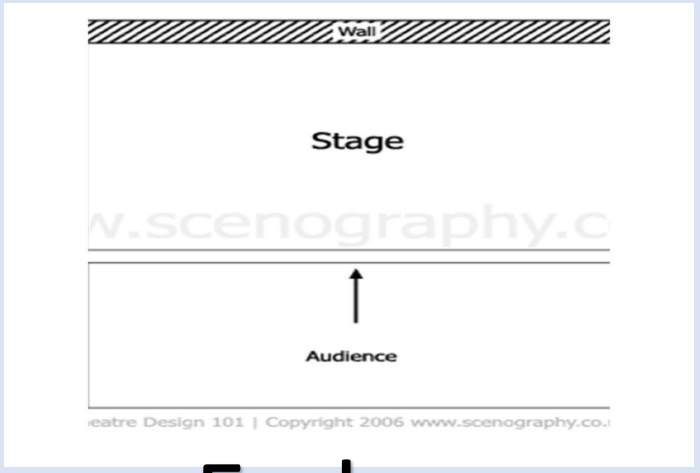
In the round



Promenade



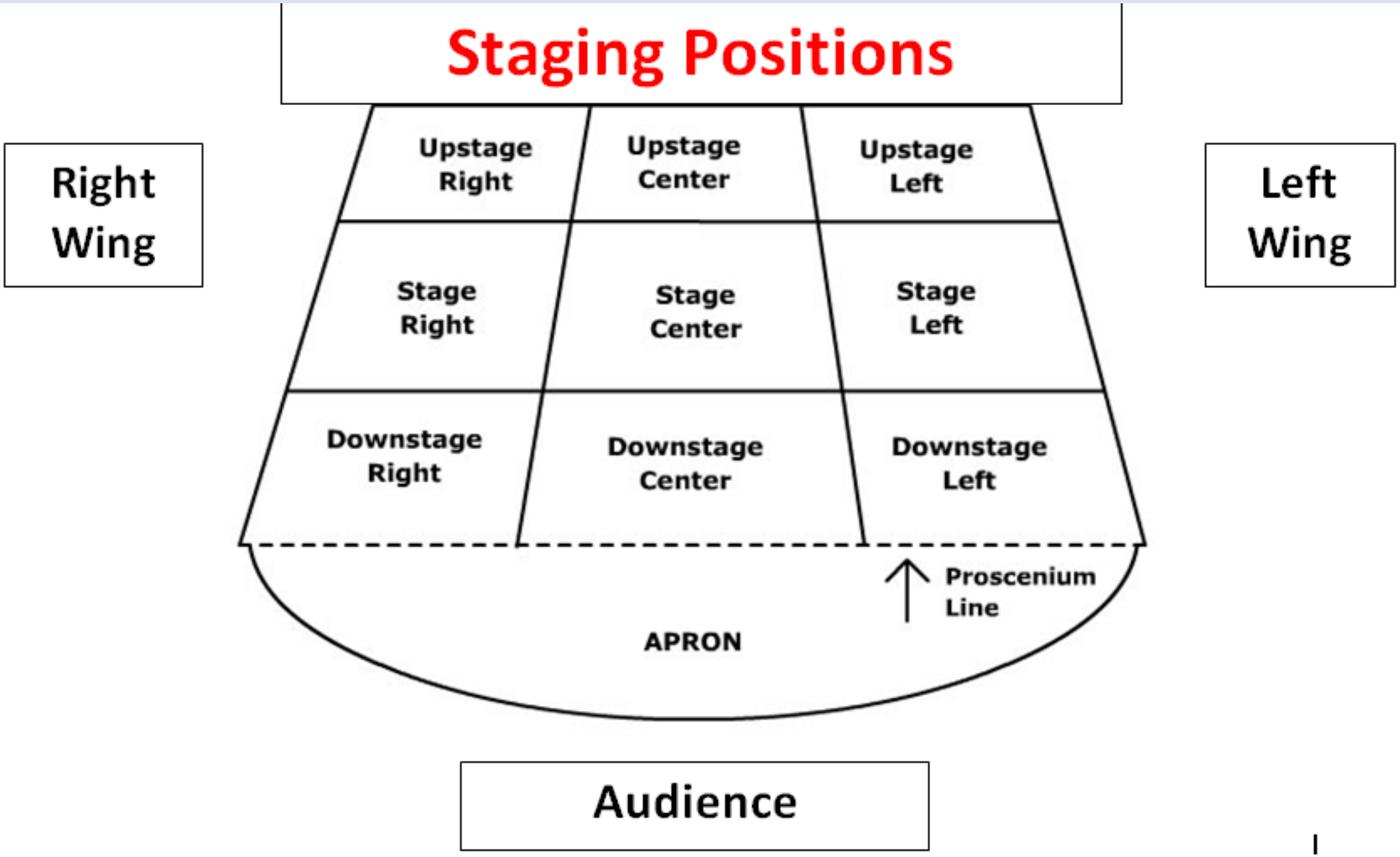
Proscenium arch



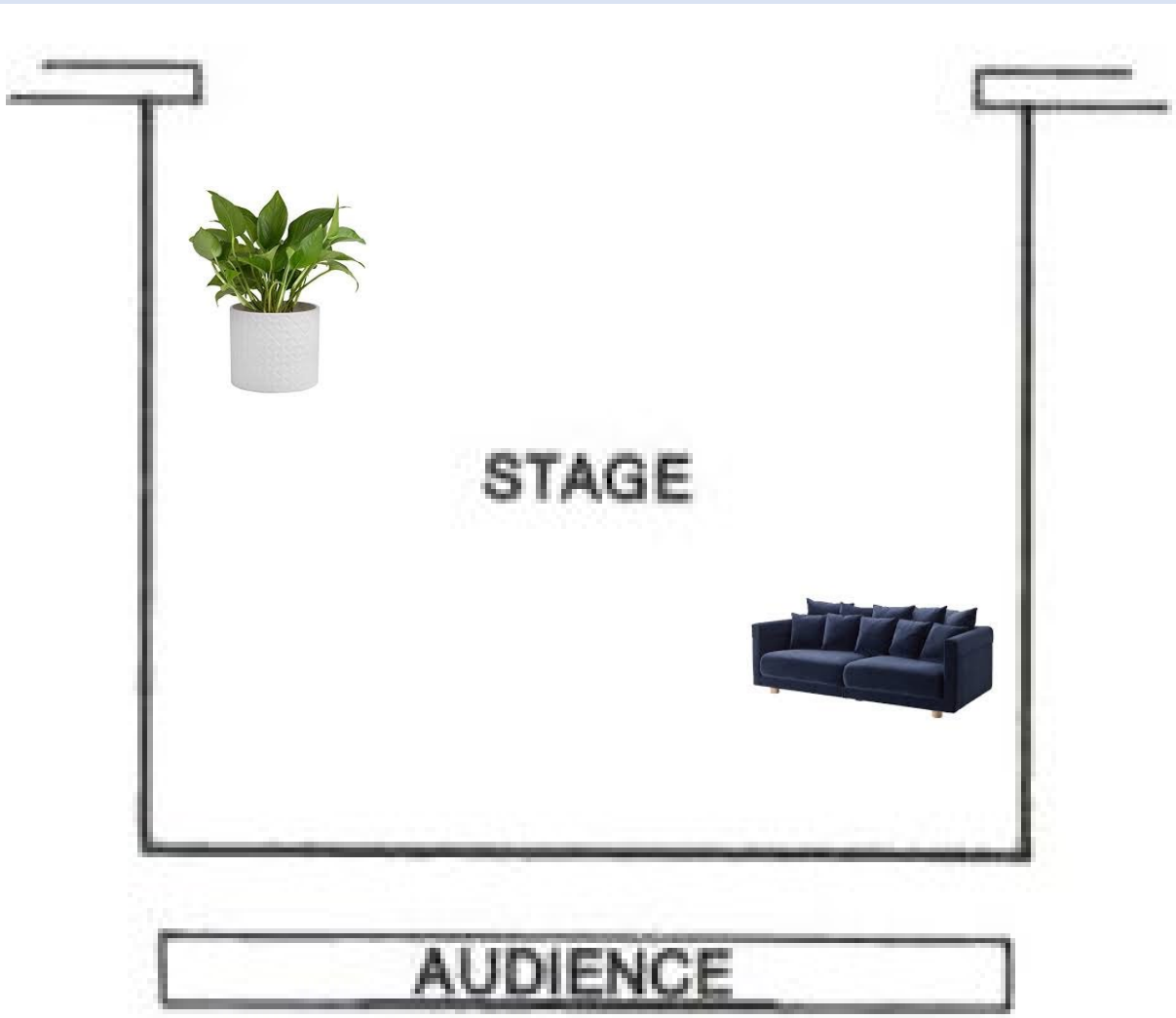
End on

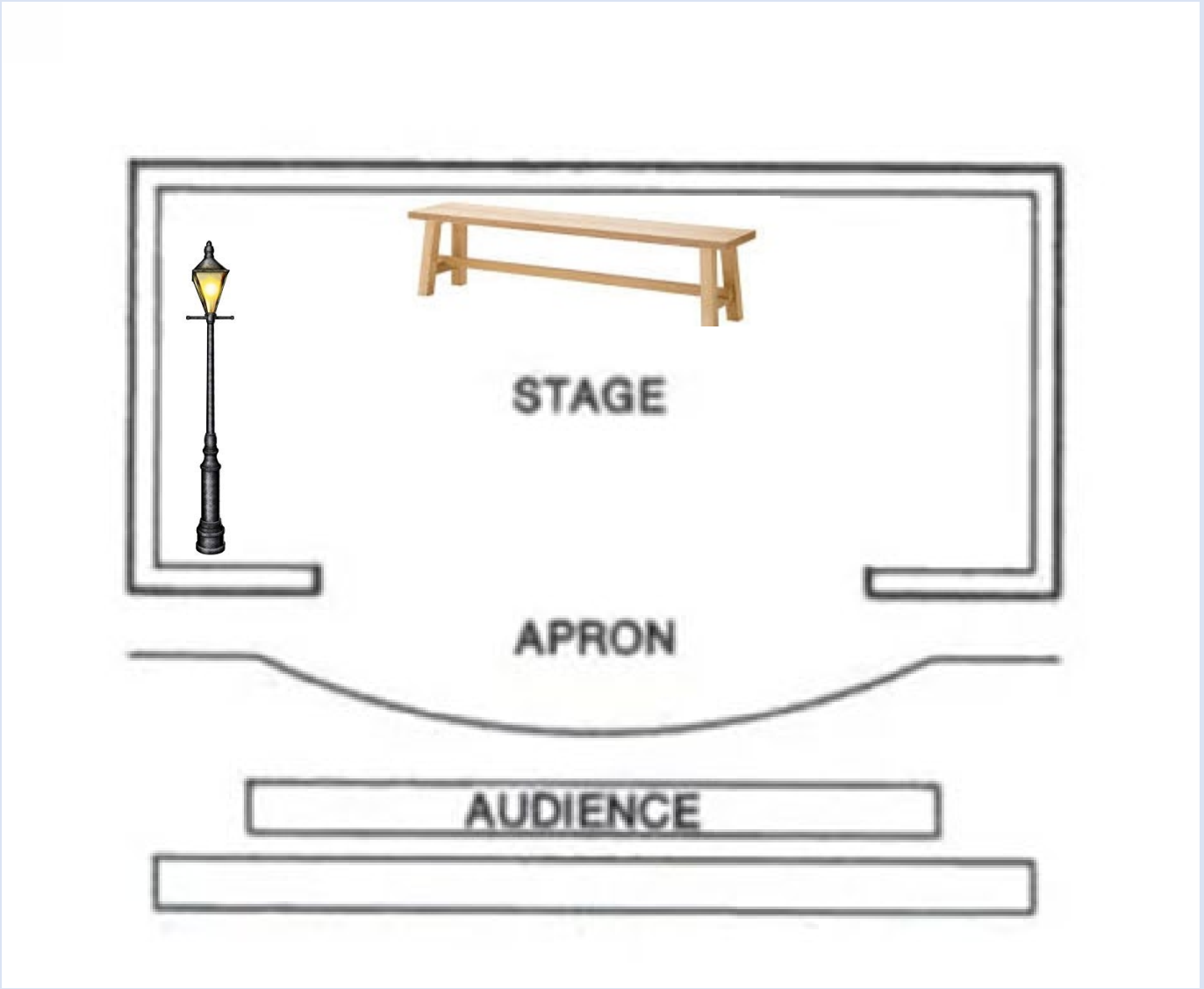
Now try drawing out the staging configurations from memory.

Staging Positions



See if you can establish the stage positioning for each of the pieces of set on the next 2 slides:


STAGE
AUDIENCE


STAGE
APRON
AUDIENCE

Try and answer all 4 questions on the next slide before the answers are revealed:

1) In the professional Theatre, who is responsible for rigging the lighting?

- Front of house
- Stage Manager
- Technician ⬅

2) In the professional theatre, who is responsible for positioning the props and set?

- Stage Manager ⬅
- Technician
- Director

3) When performing on a thrust stage, which of the following is true?

- It is better to keep set changes to a minimum ⬅
- Audiences can only sit in one area

4) When performing on a proscenium arch stage, which of the following is true?

- It is easy to bring set and props on and off stage ⬅
- The audience are all sat at the same level
- The actors need to perform all around them

Other…

- We follow the AQA specification for GCSE Drama

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261

- Take a look at BBC Bitesize for GCSE Drama: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zrnjwty

- Watch live theatre productions or productions streamed online

- Try writing a short review of a production you have seen (no more than 200 words)