



La-Net

THA 209

**PARTICIPATION
ORIENTATION/
WORKSHOP
PRODUCTIONS**



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Course title: Participation Orientation/Workshop Productions

Course code: THA 209

Course units: 2

Series 1: Introduction to Theatre Production and Participation Orientation

1.1 Overview of Theatre Production

1.1.1 Meaning of theatre production

1.1.2 Stages of play production

1.1.3 Roles in theatre production

1.2 Participation in Theatre Production

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1.2.2 Importance of teamwork in theatre

1.2.3 Roles of students in production

1.3 Introduction to Theatre Management

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1.3.2 Front-of-house and backstage operations

1.3.3 Basic organizational skills in theatre



INTRODUCTION

Theatre production is a collaborative process that brings dramatic works to life through performance. It involves a range of activities, including planning, rehearsing, managing, and executing a play.

Participation in theatre production allows students to gain practical experience, develop teamwork skills, and understand the various roles involved in staging a performance.

This series aims to introduce you to the fundamentals of theatre production, participation orientation, and basic theatre management skills.

We shall commence this Series by examining the concept of theatre production, its stages, and the roles involved in the process. Next, we will explore participation in theatre production, focusing on teamwork and the responsibilities of students in production activities. Finally, we will introduce theatre management, including front-of-house and backstage operations, and the organizational skills required for effective production.

Series learning outcomes

Upon completing this Series, you should be able to:

SLO 1.1 define theatre production and explain its stages,

SLO 1.2 identify key roles in theatre production,

SLO 1.3 explain the concept of participation orientation in theatre,

SLO 1.4 demonstrate understanding of teamwork in production,

SLO 1.5 describe front-of-house and backstage operations, and

SLO 1.6 explain basic theatre management skills.



1.1 Overview of Theatre Production

1.1.1 meaning of theatre production

Theatre production is the process through which a dramatic script is transformed into a live performance. The term theatre production refers to all activities involved in staging a play, including planning, rehearsing, designing, and performing.

It combines artistic creativity with technical execution, requiring collaboration among various participants such as actors, directors, designers, and crew members.

Understanding theatre production provides the foundation for active participation in stage performances.

Fill in the blank: Theatre production involves staging a ____ performance.

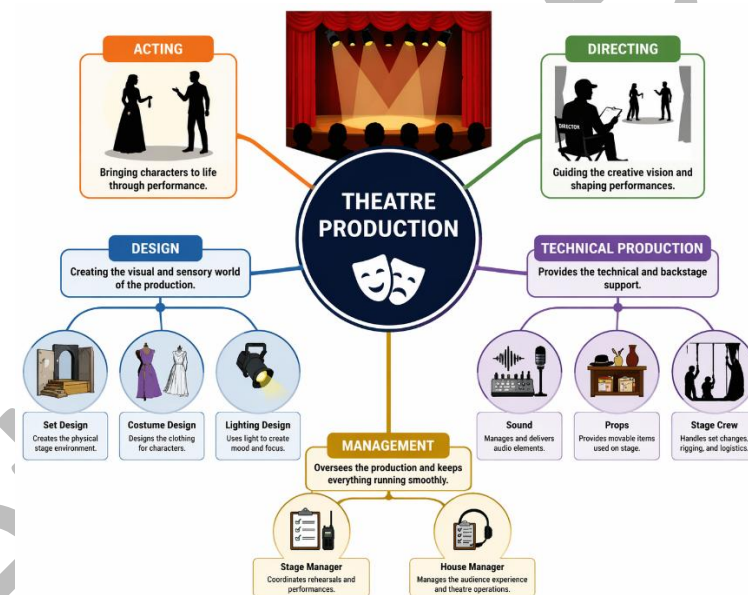


Figure 1.1 Theatre production

1.1.2 stages of play production

A theatre production follows a sequence of stages.

These stages typically include pre-production, rehearsal, performance, and post-production. Each stage involves specific tasks that contribute to the success of the production.



Pre-production focuses on planning, rehearsal develops the performance, and performance brings the play to the audience.

Understanding these stages helps you appreciate how a play is organised from start to finish.

Fill in the blank: The first stage of production is ____.

1.1.3 roles in theatre production

Theatre production involves many roles, each contributing to the overall performance.

Key roles include the director, who oversees the artistic vision; actors, who perform the script; and the technical crew, who handle lighting, sound, and stage setup.

Other roles include stage managers, designers, and front-of-house staff.

Understanding these roles helps you identify your place within a production team.

Fill in the blank: The ____ oversees the artistic vision of a play.

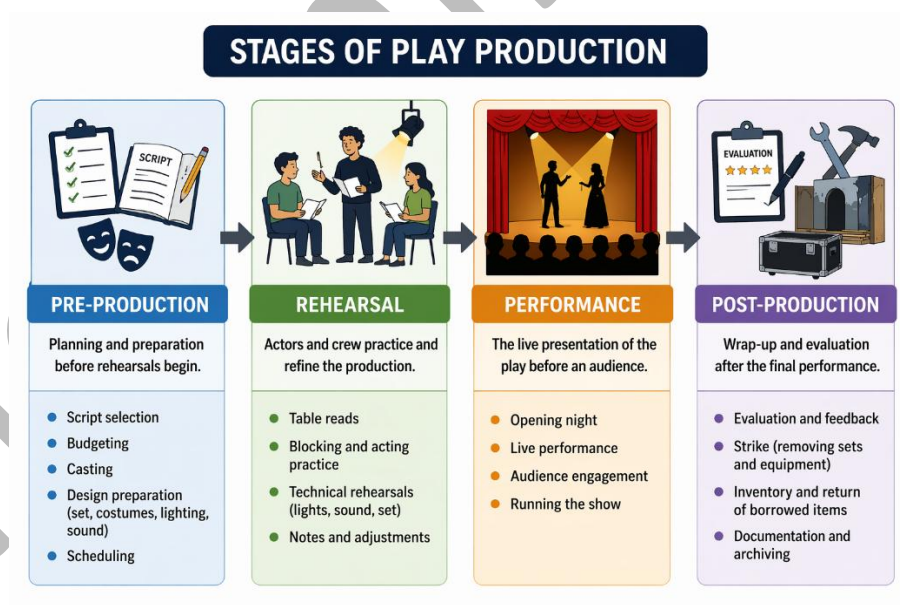


Figure 1.2 Roles in theatre production



Pilot questions 1.1

1. Theatre production refers to:

- A. Writing scripts
- B. Staging a play
- C. Reading books
- D. Drawing sets

2. Theatre production involves:

- A. Collaboration
- B. One person
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

3. The first stage of production is:

- A. Performance
- B. Rehearsal
- C. Pre-production
- D. Post-production

4. The director is responsible for:

- A. Costumes only
- B. Lighting only
- C. Music only
- D. Artistic vision



5. Actors are responsible for:

- A. Performing roles
- B. Designing sets
- C. Managing tickets
- D. Lighting design

1.2.1 meaning of participation orientation

Participation orientation in theatre refers to the process of preparing individuals to engage in production activities actively. The term participation orientation involves introducing students to the roles, expectations, and responsibilities within a theatre production.

It helps students understand how to contribute effectively, whether on stage or behind the scenes. This orientation ensures that everyone involved is aware of their duties and how they fit into the production process.

Understanding participation orientation is essential for effective involvement in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Participation orientation prepares students to ____ in production.





Figure 1.3 Participation in theatre

1.2.2 Importance of teamwork in theatre

Theatre production is a collaborative effort that depends on teamwork.

The term teamwork refers to the ability of individuals to work together towards a common goal. In theatre, successful performance relies on cooperation among actors, directors, and technical crew.

Effective teamwork ensures smooth rehearsals, coordinated performances, and successful productions.

Understanding teamwork helps you function effectively within a production team.

Fill in the blank: Teamwork involves working towards a ____ goal.



TABLE 1.2: IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK

Benefit	Description	Example in Theatre
 Coordination	Ensures that everyone's tasks are aligned and performed at the right time.	 Stage crew, actors, and technical team work together for smooth scene changes.
 Cooperation	Encourages mutual support and respect to achieve a common goal.	 Actors support each other during rehearsals and performances.
 Efficiency	Saves time and resources by sharing responsibilities and avoiding duplication.	 A well-organized team completes tasks on schedule and stays within budget.
 Creativity	Combines different ideas and skills to create a stronger and more original production.	 Writers, designers, and actors share ideas that enhance the overall production.
 Problem-Solving	Helps the team overcome challenges by working together and finding solutions.	 The team collaborates to solve technical issues or last-minute changes.
 Success	Leads to a high-quality performance and a rewarding experience for everyone.	 A successful show is the result of everyone contributing their best.

Table 1.2 Importance of teamwork

1.2.3 roles of students in production

Students play various roles in theatre production.

They may act as performers, stage managers, designers, or members of the technical crew. Each role contributes to the overall success of the production.

Participating in different roles allows students to gain practical experience and develop diverse skills.

Understanding these roles helps you identify your strengths and interests in theatre.

Fill in the blank: Students can participate as actors, crew, or ____.



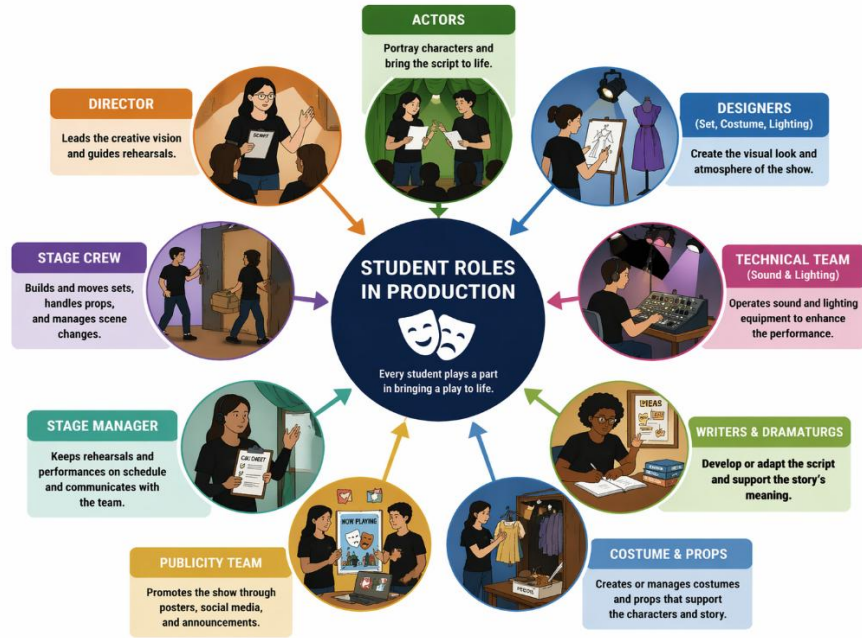


Figure 1.4 Student roles in production

Pilot questions 1.2

1. Participation orientation refers to:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Preparing for involvement
- D. Ignoring production

2. Teamwork involves:

- A. Silence
- B. Working alone
- C. Numbers
- D. Working together



3. Theatre production depends on:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Collaboration
- D. One person

4. Students can participate as:

- A. Silence
- B. Audience only
- C. Numbers
- D. Actors and crew

5. Teamwork helps to:

- A. Improve coordination
- B. Cause confusion
- C. Silence
- D. Stop production

1.3 Introduction to Theatre Management

1.3.1 meaning of theatre management

Theatre management involves the organisation and coordination of activities in a theatre production. The term theatre management refers to the planning, supervision, and control of all aspects of a production to ensure its success.

It includes managing resources, coordinating teams, and ensuring that all parts of the production run smoothly.



Understanding theatre management helps you appreciate how productions are organised and executed effectively.

Fill in the blank: Theatre management involves ____ and coordination.



Figure 1.5 Theatre management

1.3.2 front-of-house and backstage operations

Theatre management includes both front-of-house and backstage operations.

Front-of-house refers to areas that interact directly with the audience, such as ticketing, ushering, and audience services.

Backstage refers to areas behind the scenes where technical and performance preparations occur.

Both areas must work together to ensure a smooth production.

Understanding these operations helps you see how different parts of a theatre function.



Fill in the blank: Front-of-house deals with the ____.

TABLE 1.3: FRONT-OF-HOUSE VS BACKSTAGE			
ASPECT	FRONT-OF-HOUSE		BACKSTAGE
 DEFINITION	Areas and roles that interact directly with the audience.		Areas and roles that operate behind the scenes.
 MAIN FOCUS	Audience experience and service.		Technical and performance support.
 KEY ROLES	Ushers, ticket officers, house manager.		Stage manager, crew, technicians, designers.
 RESPONSIBILITIES	Seating, ticketing, customer assistance, crowd control.		Set changes, lighting, sound, props management.
 VISIBILITY	Visible to the audience.		Not visible to the audience.
 INTERACTION LEVEL	High interaction with audience.		Minimal or no audience interaction.
 EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES	Welcoming guests, checking tickets, guiding seating.		Managing cues, operating lights/sound, scene shifts.

Table 1.3 Front-of-house vs backstage

1.3.3 Basic organizational skills in theatre

Successful theatre management requires strong organizational skills. These include planning, communication, time management, and coordination. These skills ensure that tasks are completed efficiently and that the production runs smoothly. Organizational skills help prevent confusion and improve overall performance quality.

Understanding these skills is essential for effective participation in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Organizational skills include planning and ____.





Figure 1.6 Organizational skills

Pilot questions 1.3

1. Theatre management refers to:

- A. Organization of production
- B. Acting
- C. Singing
- D. Dancing

2. Front-of-house deals with:

- A. Technical work
- B. Lighting only
- C. Audience services
- D. Costumes



3. Backstage operations involve:

- A. Technical preparation
- B. Audience seating
- C. Ticket sales
- D. Ushers

4. Organisational skills include:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Costume design
- D. Planning and communication

5. Theatre management ensures:

- A. Confusion
- B. Smooth production
- C. Silence
- D. Delay



Series summary

In this Series, you were introduced to the fundamentals of theatre production and participation orientation. You began by examining the concept of theatre production, its stages, and the roles involved in staging a play. You then explored participation in theatre production, focusing on teamwork and students' responsibilities within a production team. Finally, you studied basic theatre management, including front-of-house and backstage operations, as well as the organizational skills required for effective production.

By engaging with these topics, you should now be able to define theatre production, identify key roles, understand participation orientation, and explain basic theatre management practices. These skills align with the Series Learning Outcomes and prepare you for active involvement in theatre production activities.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Backstage: The area behind the stage where technical and performance preparations take place.

Front-of-house: The section of a theatre that interacts directly with the audience, including ticketing and ushering.

Participation orientation: The process of preparing individuals to actively engage in theatre production.

Teamwork: The ability of individuals to work together towards a common goal in a production.

Theatre management: The organization and coordination of activities involved in theatre production.

Theatre production: The process of staging a dramatic work from planning to performance.

Stage roles: The different responsibilities performed by individuals in a theatre production, such as acting and directing.

Organizational skills: Skills such as planning, communication, and coordination are used in managing theatre activities.



Concept check questions 1

Objective questions

1. Theatre production refers to:

- A. Writing scripts
- B. Staging a play
- C. Singing
- D. Drawing sets

(Linked to SLO 1.1)

2. The first stage of production is:

- A. Performance
- B. Pre-production
- C. Rehearsal
- D. Post-production

(Linked to SLO 1.1)

3. Teamwork involves:

- A. Working alone
- B. Working together
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 1.4)



4. Front-of-house deals with:

- A. Technical work
- B. Audience services
- C. Lighting
- D. Costumes

(Linked to SLO 1.5)

Short-answer questions

5. Define theatre production and explain its stages.

(Linked to SLO 1.1)

6. Identify key roles in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 1.2)

7. Explain participation orientation in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 1.3)

8. Describe the importance of teamwork in production.

(Linked to SLO 1.4)

9. Differentiate between front-of-house and backstage operations.

(Linked to SLO 1.5)

Long-answer questions

10. Analyse the process of theatre production from planning to performance.

(Linked to SLO 1.1)

11. Evaluate the role of teamwork and participation in theatre production.



(Linked to SLO 1.3, SLO 1.4)

12. Examine the importance of theatre management in successful productions.

(Linked to SLO 1.6)

Answers to concept check questions 1

Objective questions

1. B

2. B

3. B

4. B

Short-answer questions

5. Theatre production is the process of staging a play, including pre-production, rehearsal, performance, and post-production.

6. Key roles include director, actors, stage manager, and technical crew.

7. Participation orientation prepares individuals to engage effectively in production roles.

8. Teamwork ensures coordination, cooperation, and successful performance outcomes.

9. Front-of-house interacts with the audience, while backstage handles technical and performance preparation.

Long-answer questions



10. Basic response: Theatre production involves stages from planning to performance.

Value-added response: The process includes planning, rehearsals, execution, and evaluation, requiring coordination among creative and technical teams.

11. Basic response: Teamwork is important in theatre.

Value-added response: Teamwork enables collaboration among cast and crew, ensuring smooth coordination and effective performance delivery.

12. Basic response: Theatre management organises production.

Value-added response: Theatre management ensures efficient planning, coordination, and execution, contributing to the overall success of a production.

Answers to pilot questions 1

Answers to pilot questions 1 (Final Fixed)

Pilot questions 1.1

1. B

2. A

3. C

4. D



5. A

Pilot questions 1.2

1. C

2. D

3. C

4. D

5. A

Pilot questions 1.3

1. A

2. C

3. A

4. D

5. B



References and attributions 1

Brook, P. (1996). *The empty space*. Penguin Books.

Schechner, R. (2013). *Performance studies: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

Cohen, R. (2017). *Theatre* (11th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Wilson, E. (2018). *The theatre experience* (14th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Figure 1.1: Theatre production

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing components of theatre production including acting, directing, and design.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre production components diagram OER”

Figure 1.2: Roles in theatre production

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing roles in theatre production such as director, actor, and crew.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “roles in theatre production diagram OER”

Figure 1.3: Participation in theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing different student roles in theatre production participation.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre participation roles diagram OER”

Figure 1.4: Student roles in production



AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing roles of students in theatre production such as actors and crew.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “student roles theatre production diagram OER”

Figure 1.5: Theatre management

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing functions of theatre management such as planning and coordination.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre management diagram OER”

Figure 1.6: Organisational skills

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing key organisational skills in theatre management.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre organisational skills diagram OER”

Table 1.1: Stages of play production

AI-assisted content based on theatre production studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing stages of play production with descriptions.”

Search reference: “stages of play production table OER”

Table 1.2: Importance of teamwork

AI-assisted content based on performance studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing importance of teamwork in theatre production.”



Search reference: “teamwork theatre benefits table OER”

Table 1.3: Front-of-house vs backstage

AI-assisted content based on theatre management

Suggested prompt: “Create a table comparing front-of-house and backstage operations.”

Search reference: “front of house vs backstage table OER”



Series 2: Play Selection, Rehearsals, and Production Processes

2.1 Choosing the Play

2.1.1 Criteria for selecting a play

2.1.2 Factors influencing play selection

2.1.3 Matching play to audience and resources

2.2 Rehearsals in Theatre Production

2.2.1 Meaning of rehearsal

2.2.2 Types of rehearsals

2.2.3 Rehearsal techniques and processes

2.3 Production Styles and Processes

2.3.1 Meaning of production styles

2.3.2 Types of production styles

2.3.3 Steps in production process

INTRODUCTION

Selecting the right play and preparing it for performance are critical steps in theatre production. The success of a production depends not only on the script chosen but also on how effectively rehearsals are conducted and how production processes are managed. Each stage requires careful planning, coordination, and creative decision-making.

The aim of this Series is to develop your understanding of play selection, rehearsal practices, and production processes in theatre.



We shall commence this Series by examining how plays are selected, including the criteria and factors that influence selection. Next, we will explore rehearsals, focusing on their purpose, types, and techniques. Finally, we will examine production styles and processes, highlighting how different approaches shape the presentation of a play.

Series learning outcomes

Upon completing this Series, you should be able to:

SLO 2.1 explain the criteria for selecting a play,

SLO 2.2 identify factors influencing play selection,

SLO 2.3 describe different types of rehearsals,

SLO 2.4 apply rehearsal techniques in theatre production,

SLO 2.5 explain production styles in theatre, and

SLO 2.6 describe the processes involved in staging a production.

2.1 Choosing The Play

2.1.1 criteria for selecting a play

Choosing the right play is a crucial step in theatre production. The term play selection criteria refers to the standards used to determine whether a play is suitable for production.

Key criteria include the relevance of the story, the availability of resources, the size of the cast, and the suitability of the play for the intended audience. A well-chosen play increases the chances of a successful production.

Understanding these criteria helps ensure that the selected play aligns with the goals and capabilities of the production team.

Fill in the blank: Play selection criteria help determine the ____ of a play.



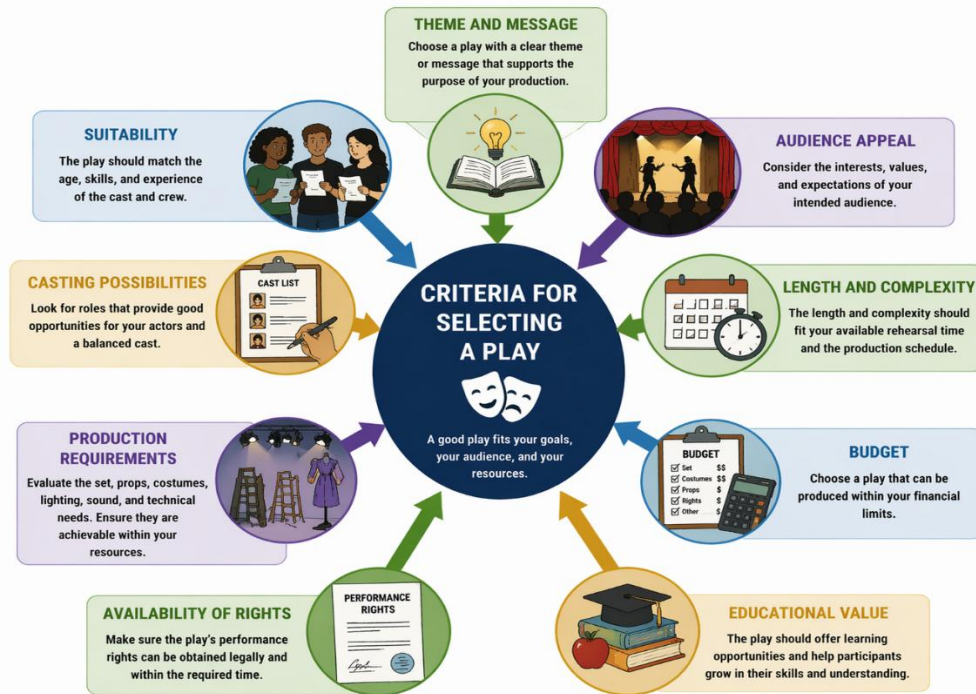


Figure 2.1 Play selection criteria

2.1.2 factors influencing play selection

Several factors influence the choice of a play.

These include audience expectations, budget, available facilities, and the skills of the performers. Cultural and social relevance may also affect selection.

A playwright or director must consider these factors to ensure that the play can be effectively produced.

Understanding these factors helps in making informed decisions during play selection.

Fill in the blank: One factor influencing play selection is ____.



TABLE 2.1: FACTORS INFLUENCING PLAY SELECTION

FACTOR	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE/CONSIDERATION	WHY IT MATTERS
 AUDIENCE	The interests, age group, and expectations of the intended audience.	 School audience vs. general public.	Ensures the play will be engaging and meaningful to the viewers.
 BUDGET	Financial resources available for production.	 Cost of costumes, set, props, and rights.	Helps avoid overspending and supports realistic planning.
 AVAILABLE RESOURCES	Materials, equipment, and facilities accessible for the production.	 Stage size, lighting equipment, rehearsal space.	Determines what can be realistically achieved.
 CAST SIZE	Number and type of actors required.	 Large ensemble vs. small cast.	Ensures the cast matches the available performers.
 TECHNICAL DEMANDS	Complexity of lighting, sound, and stage effects.	 Simple stage vs. advanced technical setup.	Affects the feasibility and cost of the production.
 DURATION	Length of the play and time available for performance.	 Short play for events vs. full-length production.	Helps fit the play into the available schedule.
 THEME AND MESSAGE	Relevance and clarity of the play's central idea.	 Educational, cultural, or social themes.	Ensures the play aligns with the goals and values of the production.
 RIGHTS AND LICENSING	Legal permission to perform the play.	 Availability of performance rights.	Avoids legal issues and supports ethical production practices.

Table 2.1 Factors influencing play selection

2.1.3 matching play to audience and resources

A successful production depends on how well the play matches the audience and available resources.

The term audience suitability refers to how appropriate a play is for its intended viewers. Resources include finances, equipment, and personnel.

Selecting a play that fits both the audience and resources ensures feasibility and audience satisfaction.

Understanding this relationship is key to effective production planning.

Fill in the blank: A play should match the ____ and resources.



MATCHING PLAY TO AUDIENCE

The best productions happen when the play, audience, and resources are in balance.



Figure 2.2 Matching play to audience

Pilot questions 2.1

1. Play selection criteria refer to:

- A. Standards for choosing a play
- B. Lighting design
- C. Acting techniques
- D. Costume design

2. One criterion for selecting a play is:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers



C. Audience relevance

D. Random choice

3. A factor influencing play selection is:

A. Ignoring audience

B. Silence

C. Numbers

D. Budget

4. Matching a play to resources ensures:

A. Failure

B. Silence

C. Feasibility

D. Confusion

5. A play should be suitable for:

A. Machines

B. Silence

C. Audience

D. Numbers



2.2 Rehearsals in Theatre Production

2.2.1 meaning of rehearsal

Rehearsal is a vital stage in theatre production where the script is practiced before the final performance. The term rehearsal refers to the repeated practice of a play by actors and the production team in preparation for performance.

During rehearsals, actors learn their roles, refine their movements, and improve their delivery of dialogue. Directors guide the performance, while technical teams prepare supporting elements.

Understanding rehearsal helps ensure a smooth and effective performance.

Fill in the blank: Rehearsal involves ____ the play before performance.



Figure 2.3 Rehearsal process



2.2.2 Types of rehearsals

There are different types of rehearsals used in theatre production. Read-through rehearsal involves reading the script aloud to understand the story. Blocking rehearsal focuses on movements and positioning on stage. Technical rehearsal involves lighting, sound, and stage effects.

Dress rehearsal is a full performance with costumes and props. Each type of rehearsal serves a specific purpose in preparing the play.

Fill in the blank: A dress rehearsal includes ____ and props.

TABLE 2.2: TYPES OF REHEARSALS

Different rehearsals serve different purposes as a production develops.

TYPE OF REHEARSAL	PURPOSE	FOCUS	KEY ACTIVITIES	WHEN IT HAPPENS
READ-THROUGH REHEARSAL 	To become familiar with the script, story, and characters.	Understanding the words, meaning, and character relationships.	• Cast reads the script aloud together. • Discuss characters, themes, and questions. • Build a shared understanding.	At the very beginning of rehearsals.
BLOCKING REHEARSAL 	To plan and practice movement and positioning on stage.	Physical actions, spacing, entrances, exits, and stage picture.	• Director stages the movement. • Actors learn where to move and stand. • Scenes are shaped on stage.	Early in the rehearsal process, after the read-through.
TECHNICAL REHEARSAL 	To add and practice technical elements with the actors.	Lighting, sound, set, props, and effects with performance.	• Add lights, sound, and set pieces. • Run scenes with technical cues. • Solve technical problems.	After blocking, when technical elements are ready.
DRESS REHEARSAL 	To run the entire play as it will be performed.	Costumes, makeup, props, timing, transitions, and polished performance.	• Perform the full play from start to finish. • Actors stay in character. • Final adjustments are made.	Just before opening night.

Table 2.2 Types of rehearsals



2.2.3 rehearsal techniques and processes

Effective rehearsals require proper techniques and organization. Rehearsal techniques include repetition, feedback, timing, and coordination. Directors and stage managers ensure that rehearsals are structured and productive. A clear rehearsal schedule and consistent practice improve performance quality. Understanding these techniques helps you participate effectively in rehearsals.

Fill in the blank: Rehearsal techniques include repetition and ____.



Figure 2.4 Rehearsal techniques



Pilot questions 2.2

1. Rehearsal refers to:
 - A. Final performance
 - B. Practicing the play
 - C. Ticket selling
 - D. Costume making
2. A read-through rehearsal involves:
 - A. Acting on stage
 - B. Lighting setup
 - C. Reading the script
 - D. Costume fitting
3. Blocking rehearsal focuses on:
 - A. Music
 - B. Dialogue only
 - C. Movement and positioning
 - D. Lighting
4. A dress rehearsal includes:
 - A. Scripts only
 - B. Silence
 - C. Numbers
 - D. Costumes and props
5. Rehearsal techniques include:
 - A. Ignoring feedback
 - B. Silence



C. Repetition and feedback

D. Numbers

2.3 Production Styles and Processes

2.3.1 meaning of production styles

Production style refers to the approach used in presenting a play. The term production styles describes the artistic methods and techniques adopted in staging a performance.

Different styles influence how the story is interpreted and presented to the audience. For example, some productions aim for realism, while others may use abstract or symbolic approaches.

Understanding production styles helps you appreciate different ways of presenting drama.

Fill in the blank: Production style refers to the ____ of presenting a play.





Figure 2.5 Production styles

2.3.2 types of production styles

There are various types of production styles in theatre.

Realistic style aims to represent life as it is, with natural settings and believable characters.

Non-realistic style includes symbolic, abstract, or stylised presentations that depart from reality.

Other styles may combine elements of both approaches.

Each style creates a unique experience for the audience.

Fill in the blank: Realistic style presents life as it ____.



TABLE 2.3: TYPES OF PRODUCTION STYLES

Production styles can be realistic or non-realistic, each creating a different effect for the audience.

PRODUCTION STYLE	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	KEY FEATURES	EXAMPLE	EFFECT ON AUDIENCE
REALISTIC 	Realistic	Tries to represent real life as accurately as possible.	- Detailed sets - Everyday costumes - Natural acting - Real-life dialogue	A family drama set in a modern living room.	Helps the audience relate to the story and believe it could happen in real life.
STYLIZED 	Non-Realistic	Uses deliberate artistic choices in movement, voice, and design.	- Heightened acting - Artistic sets - Symbolic costumes - Strong visual style	Commedia dell'arte or traditional formal theatre.	Creates a heightened world that feels larger than life.
EXPRESSIONISTIC 	Non-Realistic	Focuses on inner emotions and ideas rather than realistic appearance.	- Distorted sets - Dramatic lighting - Exaggerated acting - Symbolic elements	Plays by Bertolt Brecht.	Encourages the audience to think deeply about big ideas and feelings.
MINIMAL 	Non-Realistic	Uses few props, limited sets, and simple costumes.	- Bare stage - Few props - Focus on actors - Simple design	Modern dramatic plays.	Lets the audience focus on the acting and the story.
	Non-Realistic	Reminds the audience they are watching a play, and encourages critical thinking.	- Direct address to audience - Projections or signs - Scene changes - Social/political themes	Brecht's plays.	Makes the audience think and question what they see.
MUSICAL THEATRE 	Non-Realistic	Tells the story through a combination of acting, singing, and dancing.	- Songs that move the story - Choreographed dance - Live music - Big, emotional moments	Broadway musicals.	Entertains and inspires through music, movement, and performance.
	Non-Realistic	Performed in an unconventional location that becomes part of the production.	- Uses real locations - Site shapes the story - Natural surroundings - Immersive experience	A play in an old factory or park.	Creates a unique, immersive connection between the story and the place.
	Non-Realistic	Combines live performance with technology.	- Video projections - Sound design - Digital elements - Creative effects	A play with video projections and live actors.	Adds visual and auditory layers that enhance the story.

Table 2.3 Types of production styles

2.3.3 Steps in the production process

The production process involves several organised steps.

These steps include planning, rehearsal, technical preparation, performance, and evaluation. Each step contributes to the successful staging of a play.

A well-managed production process ensures that all elements work together effectively.

Understanding these steps helps you participate actively in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: The production process includes planning and ____.



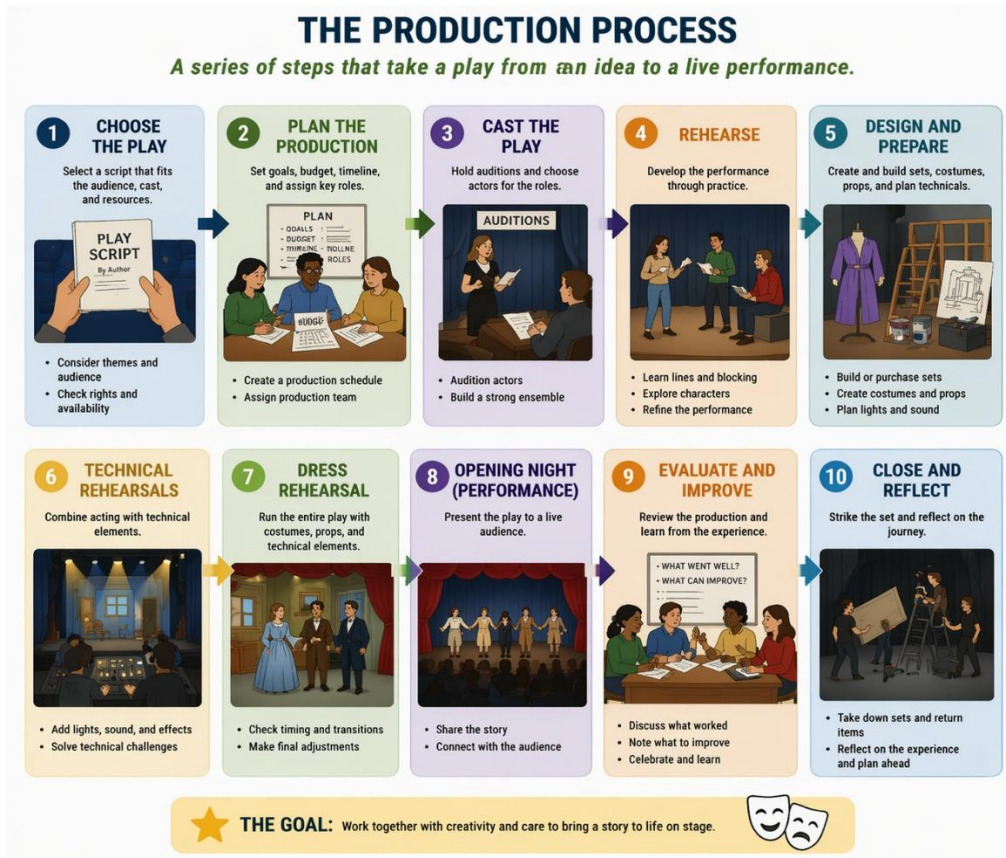


Figure 2.6 Production process

Pilot questions 2.3

1. Production style refers to:

- A. Acting only
- B. Approach to staging
- C. Costume design
- D. Lighting

2. A realistic style aims to:

- A. Distort reality



- B. Represent real life
- C. Ignore audience
- D. Use silence

3. Non-realistic style includes:

- A. Natural acting only
- B. Symbolic presentation
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

4. The production process includes:

- A. Planning
- B. Ignoring rehearsal
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

5. Production styles affect:

- A. Story presentation
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Nothing



2.3 Production Styles and Processes

2.3.1 meaning of production styles

Production style refers to the approach used in presenting a play. The term production styles describe the artistic methods and techniques adopted in staging a performance.

Different styles influence how the story is interpreted and presented to the audience. For example, some productions aim for realism, while others may use abstract or symbolic approaches.

Understanding production styles helps you appreciate different ways of presenting drama.

Fill in the blank: Production style refers to the ____ of presenting a play.



Figure 2.5 Production styles



2.3.2 types of production styles

There are various types of production styles in theatre.

Realistic style aims to represent life as it is, with natural settings and believable characters.

Non-realistic style includes symbolic, abstract, or stylised presentations that depart from reality.

Other styles may combine elements of both approaches.

Each style creates a unique experience for the audience.

Fill in the blank: Realistic style presents life as it ____.

Table 2.3: Types of Production Styles

Production styles can be realistic or non-realistic, each creating a different effect for the audience.

Production Style	Type	Description	Key Features	Example
 REALISTIC	Realistic	Represents life as it is, aiming for accuracy and believability.	- Natural acting - Detailed sets - Everyday costumes	Modern family drama
 STYLISTED	Non-realistic	Uses artistic and exaggerated elements to present the story.	- Symbolic movement - Creative design - Heightened expression	Traditional or formal theatre
 EXPRESSIONISTIC	Non-realistic	Focuses on inner emotions rather than external reality.	- Distorted sets - Dramatic lighting - Exaggerated acting	Plays influenced by expressionism
 MINIMALIST	Non-realistic	Uses very simple stage elements to emphasise performance and text.	- Bare stage - Few props - Simple costumes	Contemporary drama productions
 EPIC THEATRE	Non-realistic	Encourages critical thinking by distancing the audience from the story.	- Direct address - Projections - Visible scene changes	Plays by Bertolt Brecht
 MUSICAL THEATRE	Non-realistic	Combines acting with singing and dancing to tell the story.	- Songs - Choreography - Live or recorded music	Broadway-style musicals
 SITE-SPECIFIC	Non-realistic	Performed outside traditional theatre spaces.	- Real locations - Immersive audience experience	Plays in parks or historic sites
 MULTIMEDIA	Non-realistic	Integrates technology into performance.	- Video projections - Sound design - Digital effects	Modern experimental theatre

Table 2.3 Types of production styles



2.3.3 steps in production process

The production process involves several organised steps.

These steps include planning, rehearsal, technical preparation, performance, and evaluation. Each step contributes to the successful staging of a play.

A well-managed production process ensures that all elements work together effectively.

Understanding these steps helps you participate actively in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: The production process includes planning and ____.

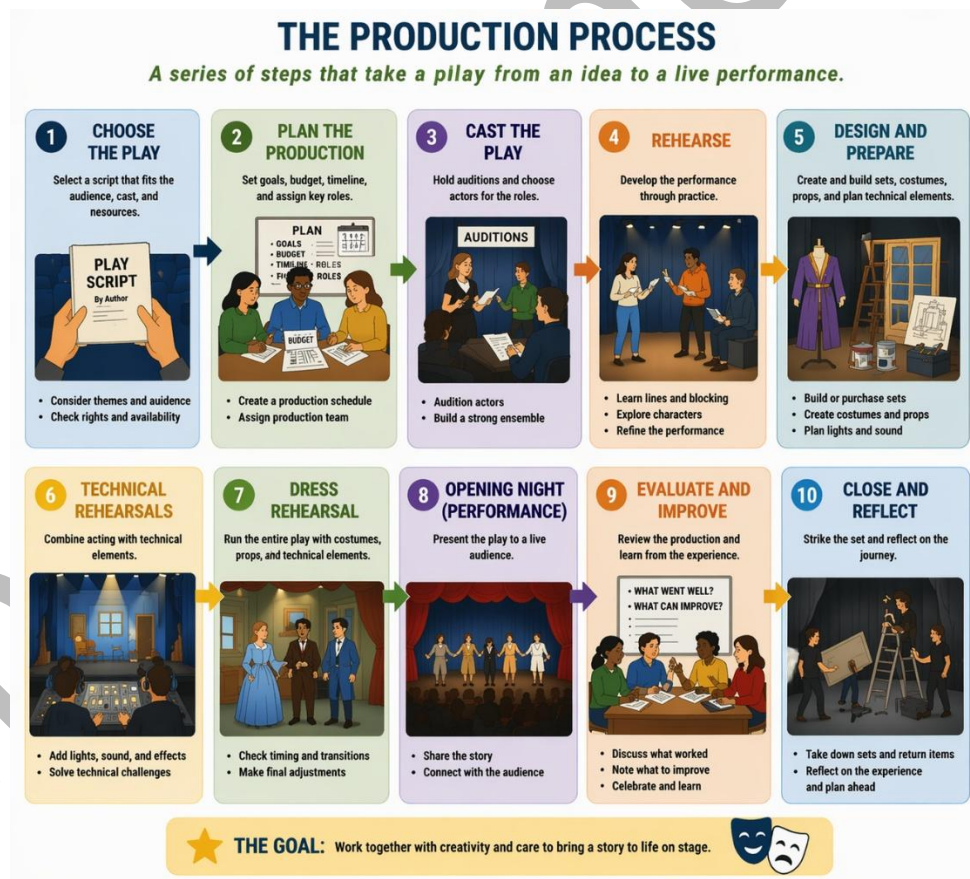


Figure 2.6 Production process



Pilot questions 2.3

1. Production style refers to:

- A. Approach to staging
- B. Acting only
- C. Costume design
- D. Lighting

2. A realistic style aims to:

- A. Ignore audience
- B. Represent real life
- C. Distort reality
- D. Use silence

3. Non-realistic style includes:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Symbolic presentation
- D. Natural acting only

4. The production process includes:

- A. Ignoring rehearsal
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers



D. Planning

5. Production styles affect:

A. Silence

B. Numbers

C. Nothing

D. Story presentation

Series summary

In this Series, you explored key aspects of preparing a play for production. You began by examining how plays are selected, including the criteria and factors that influence selection, as well as the importance of matching a play to the audience and available resources. You then studied rehearsals, focusing on their purpose, types, and techniques used to prepare for performance. Finally, you examined production styles and processes, including different approaches to staging a play and the steps involved in bringing a production to life.

By engaging with these topics, you should now be able to select appropriate plays, participate effectively in rehearsals, and understand different production styles and processes. These skills align with the Series Learning Outcomes and are essential for successful theatre production.

Glossary of terms

Blocking rehearsal: A rehearsal focused on the movement and positioning of actors on stage.

Dress rehearsal: A full rehearsal with costumes, props, and technical elements.

Play selection criteria: Standards used to determine the suitability of a play for production.

Production process: The sequence of steps involved in staging a play, from planning to performance.

Production styles: Artistic approaches used in presenting a play.



Read-through rehearsal: A rehearsal where the script is read aloud to understand the story.

Rehearsal: The practice of a play before its performance.

Rehearsal techniques: Methods used to improve performance during rehearsals.

Technical rehearsal: A rehearsal focusing on technical elements such as lighting and sound.



Concept check questions 2

Objective questions

1. Play selection criteria refer to:

- A. Lighting design
- B. Standards for choosing a play
- C. Acting techniques
- D. Costume design

(Linked to SLO 2.1)

2. One factor influencing play selection is:

- A. Budget
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Ignoring audience

(Linked to SLO 2.2)

3. Rehearsal refers to:

- A. Final performance
- B. Practicing the play
- C. Ticket selling
- D. Costume making

(Linked to SLO 2.3)

4. A dress rehearsal includes:



A. Scripts only

B. Costumes and props

C. Silence

D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 2.3)

Short-answer questions

5. Explain the criteria for selecting a play.

(Linked to SLO 2.1)

6. Identify factors that influence play selection.

(Linked to SLO 2.2)

7. Describe different types of rehearsals.

(Linked to SLO 2.3)

8. Explain rehearsal techniques used in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 2.4)

9. Describe production styles in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 2.5)

Long-answer questions



10. Analyse the importance of selecting the right play for production.

(Linked to SLO 2.1, SLO 2.2)

11. Evaluate the role of rehearsals in successful theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 2.3, SLO 2.4)

12. Examine production styles and processes in staging a play.

(Linked to SLO 2.5, SLO 2.6)



Answers to concept check questions 2

Objective questions

1. B
2. A
3. B
4. B

Short-answer questions

5. Criteria include relevance, resources, audience suitability, and cast size.
6. Factors include budget, audience expectations, facilities, and performer skills.
7. Types include read-through, blocking, technical, and dress rehearsals.
8. Techniques include repetition, feedback, timing, and coordination.
9. Production styles include realistic and non-realistic approaches.

Long-answer questions

Basic response: Choosing the right play is important.



Value-added response: Selecting an appropriate play ensures feasibility, audience engagement, and effective use of available resources.

11. Basic response: Rehearsals prepare actors.

Value-added response: Rehearsals refine performance, improve coordination, and ensure that all elements of the production are well executed.

12. Basic response: Production styles affect how plays are presented.

Value-added response: Production styles and processes determine the interpretation, organisation, and presentation of a play, shaping audience experience.

Answers to pilot questions 2 (Final Fixed)

Pilot questions 2.1

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. C

Pilot questions 2.2

1. B



2. C

3. C

4. D

5. C

Pilot questions 2.3

1. A

2. B

3. C

4. D

5. D



References and attributions 2

Cohen, R. (2017). *Theatre* (11th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

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Brockett, O. G., & Hildy, F. J. (2014). *History of the theatre* (11th ed.). Pearson.

Schechner, R. (2013). *Performance studies: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

Figure 2.1: Play selection criteria

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing criteria for selecting a play such as audience and resources.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “play selection criteria diagram OER”

Figure 2.2: Matching play to audience

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing how play selection matches audience and resources.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “play audience resource match diagram OER”

Figure 2.3: Rehearsal process

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing rehearsal activities in theatre production.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre rehearsal process diagram OER”

Figure 2.4: Rehearsal techniques



AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing rehearsal techniques such as repetition and feedback.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “rehearsal techniques theatre diagram OER”

Figure 2.5: Production styles

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing different theatre production styles such as realism and abstract.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “production styles theatre diagram OER”

Figure 2.6: Production process

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing steps in theatre production process.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “production process theatre diagram OER”

Table 2.1: Factors influencing play selection

AI-assisted content based on theatre production studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing factors influencing play selection.”

Search reference: “play selection factors table OER”

Table 2.2: Types of rehearsals

AI-assisted content based on theatre practice

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing types of rehearsals in theatre production.”

Search reference: “types of rehearsals theatre table OER”



Table 2.3: Types of production styles

AI-assisted content based on performance theory

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing types of production styles in theatre.”

Search reference: “production styles table theatre OER”



Series 3: Stage Management, Acting, Directing, and Backstage Collaboration

3.1 Stage Management in Theatre Production

3.1.1 Meaning of stage management

3.1.2 Roles and responsibilities of a stage manager

3.1.3 Importance of stage management

3.2 Acting and Directing in Theatre

3.2.1 Meaning of acting and directing

3.2.2 Roles of actors and directors

3.2.3 Acting and directing techniques

3.3 Backstage Work and Collaboration

3.3.1 Meaning of backstage work

3.3.2 Types of backstage roles

3.3.3 Collaboration in production teams

INTRODUCTION

Successful theatre production relies on effective coordination, performance, and teamwork. Stage management ensures that all aspects of a production run smoothly, while acting and directing bring the script to life. In addition, backstage collaboration supports the performance by handling technical and logistical tasks that are essential for a seamless production.

This series aims to develop your understanding of stage management, acting, directing, and backstage collaboration in theatre production.



We shall commence this Series by examining stage management, including its roles and responsibilities in coordinating production activities. Next, we will explore acting and directing, focusing on their functions and techniques in performance. Finally, we will examine backstage work, highlighting the various roles involved and the importance of collaboration within the production team.

Series learning outcomes

Upon completing this Series, you should be able to:

SLO 3.1 define stage management and explain its roles,

SLO 3.2 describe the responsibilities of a stage manager,

SLO 3.3 explain the roles of actors and directors in production,

SLO 3.4 apply basic acting and directing techniques,

SLO 3.5 identify backstage roles in theatre production, and

SLO 3.6 explain the importance of collaboration in production teams.

3.1 Stage Management In Theatre Production

3.1.1 meaning of stage management

Stage management is a key aspect of theatre production that ensures all elements of a performance are coordinated effectively. The term stage management refers to the organization and supervision of all activities that occur during rehearsals and performances.

The stage manager acts as a link between the director, actors, and technical crew, ensuring that everyone works together smoothly.

Understanding stage management helps you appreciate how productions are organized and controlled.

Fill in the blank: Stage management involves ____ and supervision of production.



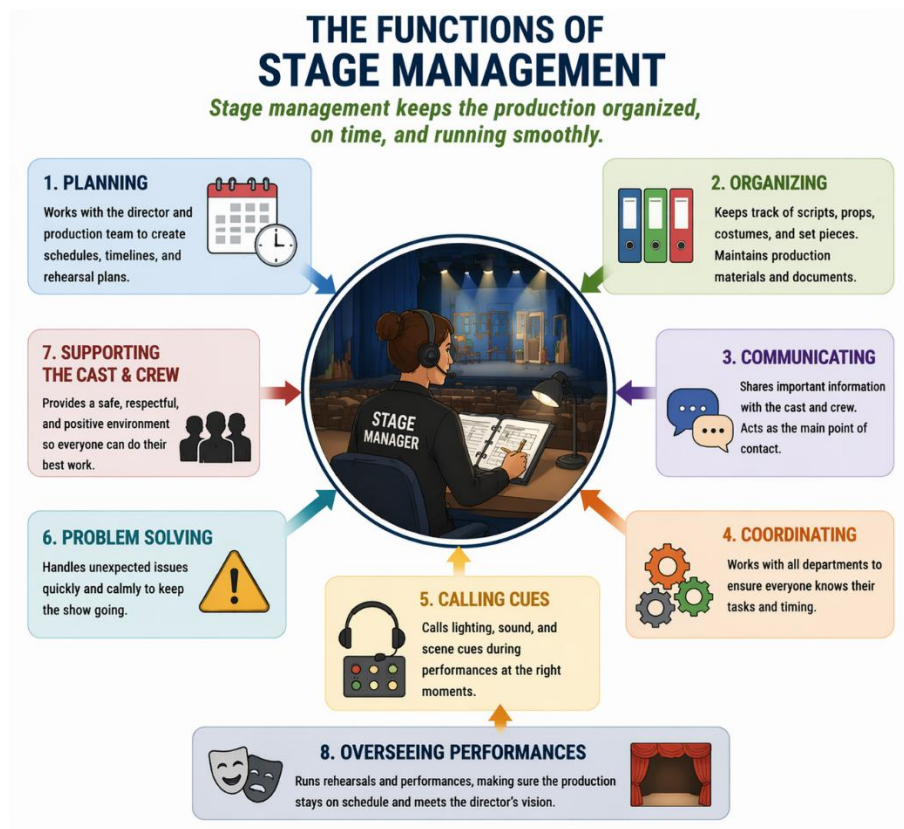


Figure 3.1 Stage management

3.1.2 roles and responsibilities of a stage manager

The stage manager has several important responsibilities. These include coordinating rehearsals, maintaining schedules, communicating with team members, and ensuring that technical cues are executed correctly. The stage manager also keeps records such as scripts and rehearsal notes, ensuring that the production runs efficiently. Understanding these responsibilities helps you recognize the importance of this role.

Fill in the blank: The stage manager coordinates ____ and communication.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF A STAGE MANAGER

The stage manager keeps the production organized, on time, and running smoothly.



Table 3.1 Responsibilities of a stage manager

3.1.3 importance of stage management

Stage management is essential for a successful production.

It ensures that rehearsals are organized, performances run smoothly, and all participants are well-coordinated. Without effective stage management, productions may face confusion and delays.

Understanding its importance highlights the need for strong organizational and leadership skills in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Stage management ensures ____ production.



THE IMPORTANCE OF STAGE MANAGEMENT

*Stage management is the backbone of a successful production.
It ensures that every element comes together at the right time for the best possible performance.*



Figure 3.2 Importance of stage management

Pilot questions 3.1

1. Stage management refers to:

- A. Organisation and supervision
- B. Acting
- C. Singing
- D. Dancing

2. The stage manager acts as a:

- A. Performer
- B. Audience



C. Link between team members

D. Musician

3. One responsibility of a stage manager is:

A. Ignoring rehearsals

B. Silence

C. Numbers

D. Coordinating schedules

4. Stage management ensures:

A. Confusion

B. Silence

C. Smooth production

D. Delay

5. The stage manager keeps:

A. Costumes only

B. Records and notes

C. Silence

D. Numbers



3.2 Acting and Directing in Theatre

3.2.1 meaning of acting and directing

Acting and directing are central to bringing a play to life. The term acting refers to the performance of characters by actors, while directing involves guiding and shaping the performance to achieve a desired artistic vision.

Actors interpret the script through speech, movement, and expression, while the director ensures that all elements of the performance work together cohesively.

Understanding acting and directing helps you appreciate how performances are created.

Fill in the blank: Acting involves ____ characters in a play.



Figure 3.3 Acting and directing



3.2.2 Roles of actors and directors

Actors and directors have distinct but complementary roles.

Actors are responsible for portraying characters and delivering dialogue, while directors interpret the script and guide the overall performance.

The director coordinates actors, stage design, and technical elements to ensure a unified production.

Understanding these roles helps you recognize the importance of both functions.

Fill in the blank: Directors are responsible for ____ the performance.

 ACTORS AND DIRECTORS  <i>Different roles, shared purpose: bringing the story to life.</i>		
ACTORS	ASPECT	DIRECTORS
 Perform characters on stage.	 PRIMARY ROLE	 Oversee and guide the entire production.
 Interpretation and portrayal of characters.	 FOCUS	 Overall vision and interpretation of the play.
 Analyse lines, emotions, and character motivations.	 SCRIPT WORK	 Analyse script, themes, and structure.
 Use voice, movement, and expression to act.	 PERFORMANCE	 Shape performances and ensure consistency.
 Work with other actors and respond to direction.	 COLLABORATION	 Work with cast and crew to coordinate production.
 Make choices about character delivery.	 DECISION-MAKING	 Make final artistic and technical decisions.
 Practise and refine performance.	 REHEARSAL ROLE	 Lead rehearsals and provide guidance.
 Individual character performance.	 RESPONSIBILITY SCOPE	 Entire production (acting, design, technical elements).
TOGETHER: The director guides the vision. The actors bring it to life.		

Table 3.2 Roles of actors and directors

3.2.3 acting and directing techniques

Effective acting and directing require specific techniques.



Acting techniques include voice control, body movement, emotional expression, and character interpretation. Directing techniques involve blocking, pacing, and coordination of performance elements.

These techniques help create believable and engaging performances.

Understanding these techniques improves your ability to participate in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Acting techniques include voice and ____.



Figure 3.4 Acting techniques

Pilot questions 3.2

1. Acting refers to:

- A. Writing scripts
- B. Performing characters



- C. Lighting design
- D. Costume making

2. Directing involves:

- A. Ignoring actors
- B. Silence
- C. Guiding performance
- D. Numbers

3. Actors are responsible for:

- A. Managing tickets
- B. Portraying characters
- C. Lighting design
- D. Music

4. Directors coordinate:

- A. Audience
- B. Performance elements
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

5. Acting techniques include:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers



C. Costume only

D. Voice and movement

3.3 Backstage Work and Collaboration

3.3.1 Meaning of backstage work

Backstage work refers to all activities that take place behind the scenes during a theatre production. The term backstage work includes technical preparation, stage setup, costume management, lighting, sound, and other support functions.

These activities are essential for ensuring that the performance runs smoothly and without interruption.

Understanding backstage work helps you appreciate the effort required beyond what the audience sees.

Fill in the blank: Backstage work takes place ____ the scenes.



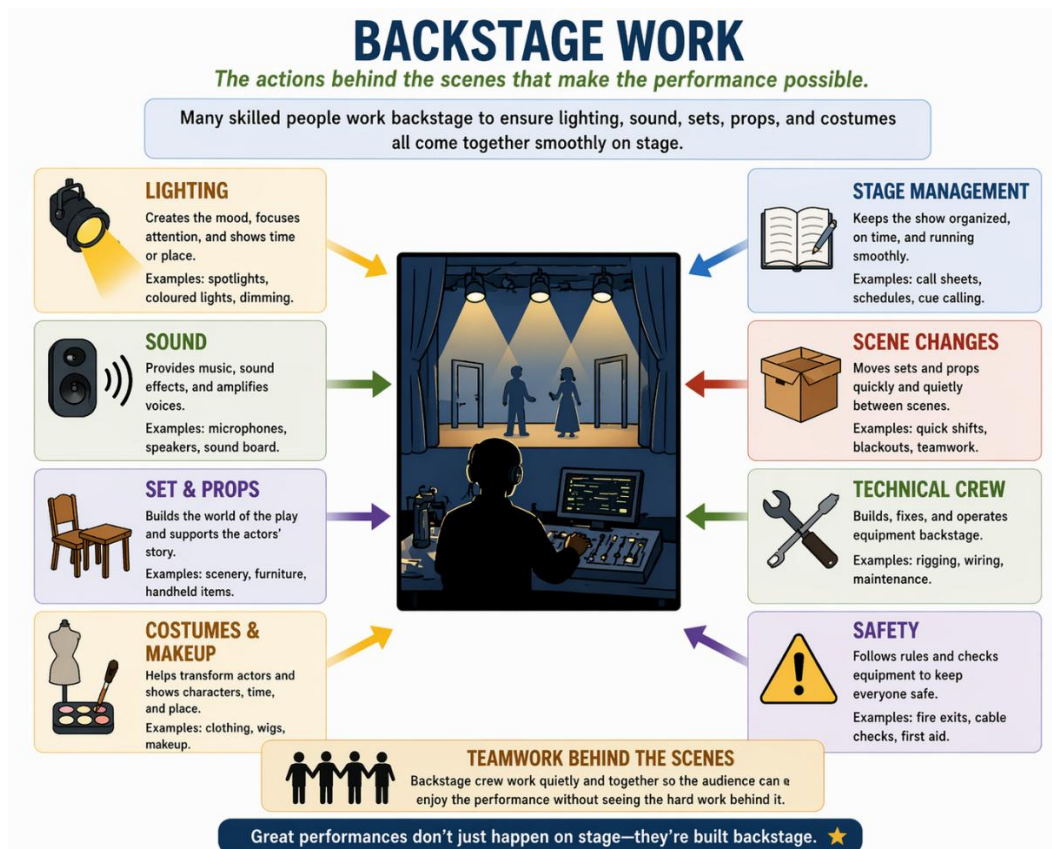


Figure 3.5 Backstage work

3.3.2 types of backstage roles

There are various roles involved in backstage work.

These include lighting technicians, sound operators, costume designers, makeup artists, and stage crew. Each role contributes to the technical and visual aspects of the production.

Understanding these roles helps you recognise the importance of technical support in theatre.

Fill in the blank: A lighting technician is part of the ____ team.



BACKSTAGE ROLES

ROLE	WHAT THEY DO	SIMPLE DIAGRAM
LIGHTING CREW	Controls the lights to create mood and focus.	
SOUND CREW	Handles music, sound effects, and microphones.	
COSTUME CREW	Designs, makes, and manages the actors' costumes.	
SET CREW	Builds and moves the sets and props.	
STAGE MANAGEMENT	Keeps the show organized and on schedule.	
WARDROBE	Looks after costumes and helps actors get changed.	
TECHNICAL CREW	Maintains and operates all technical equipment.	

Table 3.3 Backstage roles

3.3.3 collaboration in production teams

Theatre production depends heavily on collaboration.

The term collaboration refers to working together effectively to achieve a common goal. In theatre, actors, directors, and backstage crew must coordinate their efforts.

Good communication and cooperation ensure that all elements of the production are aligned.

Understanding collaboration helps you function effectively within a production team.

Fill in the blank: Collaboration involves working ____ together.



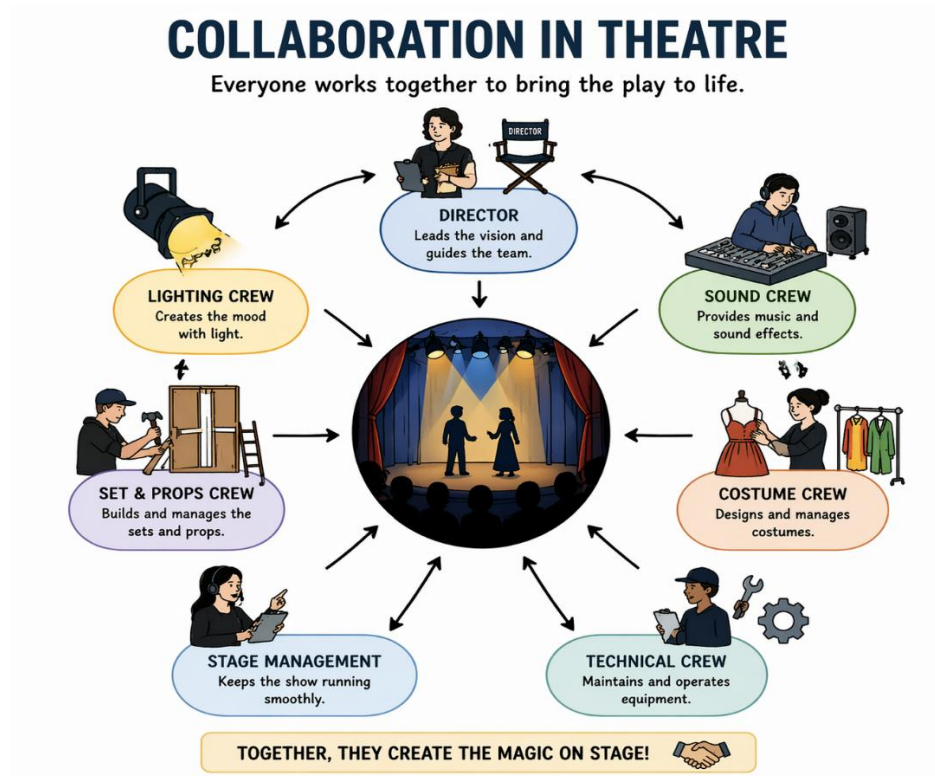


Figure 3.6 Collaboration in theatre

Pilot questions 3.3

1. Backstage work refers to:

- A. Audience seating
- B. Acting
- C. Behind-the-scenes activities
- D. Singing

2. Backstage activities include:

- A. Silence
- B. Lighting and sound



C. Numbers

D. Audience interaction

3. A costume designer is part of:

A. Audience

B. Acting team

C. Technical team

D. Music group

4. Collaboration refers to:

A. Working alone

B. Silence

C. Numbers

D. Working together

5. Backstage roles support:

A. Silence

B. Performance

C. Numbers

D. Nothing

Series summary



In this Series, you explored the key roles and collaborative processes involved in theatre production. You began by examining stage management, including its meaning, responsibilities, and importance in coordinating production activities. You then studied acting and directing, focusing on how performances are created and guided. Finally, you explored backstage work and collaboration, highlighting the technical roles and teamwork required to support a successful production.

By engaging with these topics, you should now be able to understand stage management, perform basic acting and directing functions, and recognise the importance of backstage roles and collaboration in theatre production. These skills align with the Series Learning Outcomes and prepare you for active participation in production teams.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acting: The performance of characters in a play through speech, movement, and expression.

Backstage work: Activities that occur behind the scenes, including technical and support functions.

Collaboration: The process of working together to achieve a common goal in theatre production.

Directing: The process of guiding and shaping a theatrical performance.

Stage manager: The person responsible for coordinating rehearsals and managing production activities.

Stage management: The organisation and supervision of activities in a theatre production.

Technical team: Members responsible for lighting, sound, costumes, and other technical aspects.

Performance elements: Components such as acting, directing, and technical design that make up a production.

Concept check questions 3

Objective questions

1. Stage management refers to:



- A. Acting
 - B. Organisation and supervision
 - C. Singing
 - D. Dancing
- (Linked to SLO 3.1)

2. The stage manager is responsible for:

- A. Audience seating
- B. Coordinating production
- C. Singing
- D. Dancing

(Linked to SLO 3.2)

3. Acting involves:

- A. Writing scripts
- B. Performing characters
- C. Lighting design
- D. Costume making

(Linked to SLO 3.3)

4. Directing involves:

- A. Ignoring actors
- B. Guiding performance
- C. Silence



D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 3.3)

Short-answer questions

5. Define stage management and explain its importance.

(Linked to SLO 3.1)

6. Describe the responsibilities of a stage manager.

(Linked to SLO 3.2)

7. Explain the roles of actors and directors.

(Linked to SLO 3.3)

8. Identify backstage roles in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 3.5)

9. Explain the importance of collaboration in production teams.

(Linked to SLO 3.6)

Long-answer questions

10. Analyse the role of stage management in successful theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 3.1, SLO 3.2)



11. Evaluate the importance of acting and directing in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 3.3, SLO 3.4)

12. Examine the role of backstage work and collaboration in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 3.5, SLO 3.6)



Answers to concept check questions 3

Objective questions

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. B

Short-answer questions

5. Stage management is the organisation and supervision of production activities, ensuring smooth coordination and performance.
6. Responsibilities include coordinating rehearsals, managing schedules, and ensuring effective communication.
7. Actors perform characters, while directors guide and shape the performance.
8. Backstage roles include lighting technicians, sound operators, costume designers, and stage crew.
9. Collaboration ensures coordination and effective teamwork in production.

Long-answer questions



Basic response: Stage management ensures organisation.

Value-added response: Stage management coordinates all aspects of production, ensuring smooth rehearsals and performances through effective communication and organisation.

11. Basic response: Acting and directing are important in theatre.

Value-added response: Acting brings characters to life, while directing ensures cohesion and artistic vision, making the performance effective and engaging.

12. Basic response: Backstage work supports performance.

Value-added response: Backstage work and collaboration ensure technical and logistical support, enabling seamless production and enhancing overall performance quality

Answers to pilot questions 3

Pilot questions 3.1

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. B

Pilot questions 3.2

1. B



2. C

3. B

4. B

5. D

Pilot questions 3.3

1. C

2. B

3. C

4. D

5. B .



REFERENCES AND ATTRIBUTIONS 3

Cohen, R. (2017). *Theatre* (11th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Wilson, E. (2018). *The theatre experience* (14th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Brockett, O. G., & Hildy, F. J. (2014). *History of the theatre* (11th ed.). Pearson.

Schechner, R. (2013). *Performance studies: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

Figure 3.1: Stage management

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing functions of stage management in theatre.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “stage management diagram theatre OER”

Figure 3.2: Importance of stage management

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing importance of stage management in theatre production.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “importance of stage management diagram OER”

Figure 3.3: Acting and directing

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing relationship between acting and directing in theatre.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “acting directing diagram theatre OER”

Figure 3.4: Acting techniques



AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing acting and directing techniques such as voice and movement.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “acting techniques diagram theatre OER”

Figure 3.5: Backstage work

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing backstage activities in theatre production.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “backstage theatre activities diagram OER”

Figure 3.6: Collaboration in theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing collaboration between actors, directors, and crew.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre collaboration diagram OER”

Table 3.1: Responsibilities of a stage manager

AI-assisted content based on theatre management studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing responsibilities of a stage manager.”

Search reference: “stage manager responsibilities table OER”

Table 3.2: Roles of actors and directors

AI-assisted content based on performance theory

Suggested prompt: “Create a table comparing roles of actors and directors.”



Search reference: “actors vs directors roles table OER”

Table 3.3: Backstage roles

AI-assisted content based on theatre production practice

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing backstage roles in theatre production.”

Search reference: “backstage roles theatre table OER”



Series 4: Theatre Design, Technical Elements, Costumes, and Makeup

4.1 Theatre Design and Technical Theatre

4.1.1 Meaning of theatre design

4.1.2 Elements of theatre design

4.1.3 Technical theatre components

4.2 Costumes and Makeup in Production

4.2.1 Meaning of costumes in theatre

4.2.2 Role of makeup in performance

4.2.3 Costume and makeup design

4.3 Music and Supporting Elements in Production

4.3.1 Role of music in theatre

4.3.2 Sound and other technical elements

4.3.3 Integration of design elements

INTRODUCTION

The visual and technical aspects of theatre production play a vital role in shaping how a performance is experienced by the audience. Theatre design, costumes, makeup, and technical elements such as sound and lighting work together to create the atmosphere, support storytelling, and enhance the overall impact of a play.



This series aims to introduce you to theatre design, technical elements, and the role of costumes, makeup, and music in production.

We shall commence this Series by examining theatre design and technical theatre, including the elements that contribute to the visual and structural aspects of a performance. Next, we will explore costumes and makeup, focusing on their role in character development and visual presentation. Finally, we will examine music and other supporting elements, highlighting how they enhance the overall production.

Series learning outcomes

Upon completing this Series, you should be able to:

SLO 4.1 define theatre design and identify its elements,

SLO 4.2 explain the components of technical theatre,

SLO 4.3 describe the role of costumes in theatre production,

SLO 4.4 explain the importance of makeup in performance,

SLO 4.5 analyse the role of music and sound in theatre, and

SLO 4.6 explain how design elements are integrated in production.

4.1 Theatre Design and Technical Theatre

4.1.1 meaning of theatre design

Theatre design refers to the visual and physical aspects of a stage production. The term theatre design involves creating the environment in which a play takes place, including sets, lighting, and props.

The design helps establish the mood, setting, and atmosphere of the performance, making the story more engaging for the audience.

Understanding theatre design helps you appreciate how visual elements contribute to storytelling.

Fill in the blank: Theatre design creates the ____ of a performance.



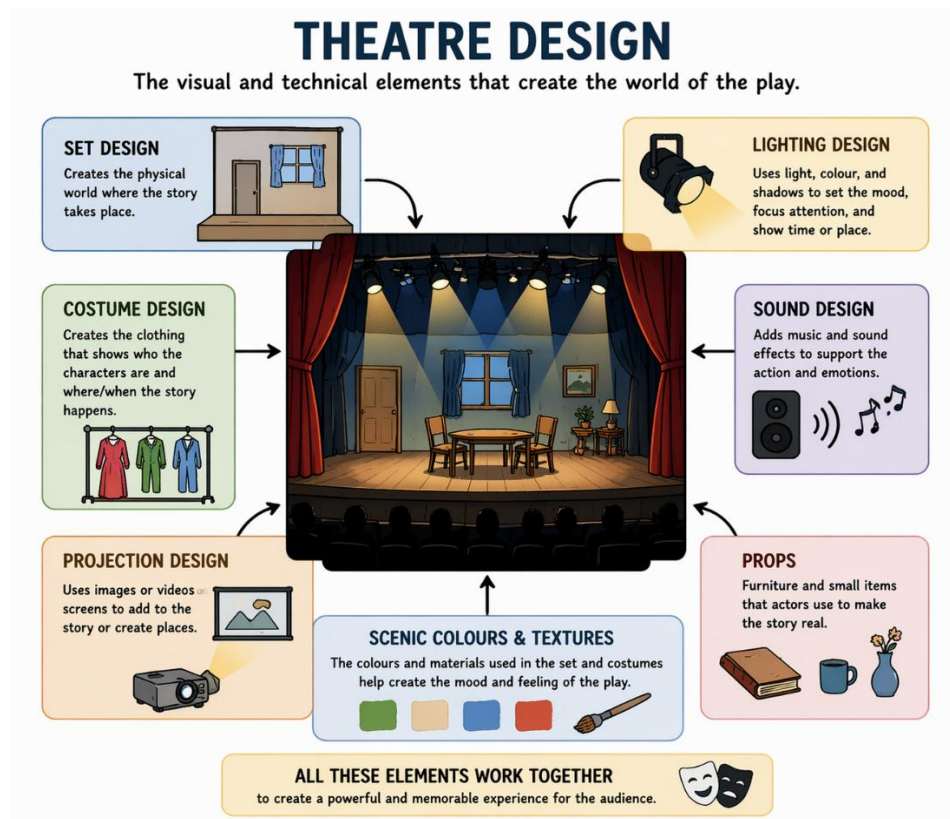


Figure 4.1 Theatre design

4.1.2 elements of theatre design

Theatre design consists of several important elements.

These include set design, which creates the physical environment; lighting, which affects mood and visibility; and props, which support the action of the play.

Each element works together to create a cohesive visual experience.

Understanding these elements helps you design effective stage environments.

Fill in the blank: Set design creates the ____ environment of the play.



ELEMENTS OF THEATRE DESIGN

ELEMENT	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE	SIMPLE DIAGRAM
SET DESIGN 	The scenery and background that creates the physical world of the play.	Sets the place, time, and atmosphere for the story.	
LIGHTING DESIGN 	The use of light, colour, and shadows to support the performance.	Creates mood, focuses attention, and shows time or place.	
PROPS 	The movable items used by actors on stage.	Make the story realistic and help actors show character and action.	

Table 4.1 Elements of theatre design

4.1.3 technical theatre components

Technical theatre involves the practical aspects of production.

The term technical theatre refers to the use of equipment and technical skills in staging a play. This includes lighting systems, sound equipment, stage machinery, and special effects.

These components support the performance and enhance the audience's experience.

Understanding technical theatre helps you appreciate the behind-the-scenes work involved in production.

Fill in the blank: Technical theatre includes lighting and ____ equipment.



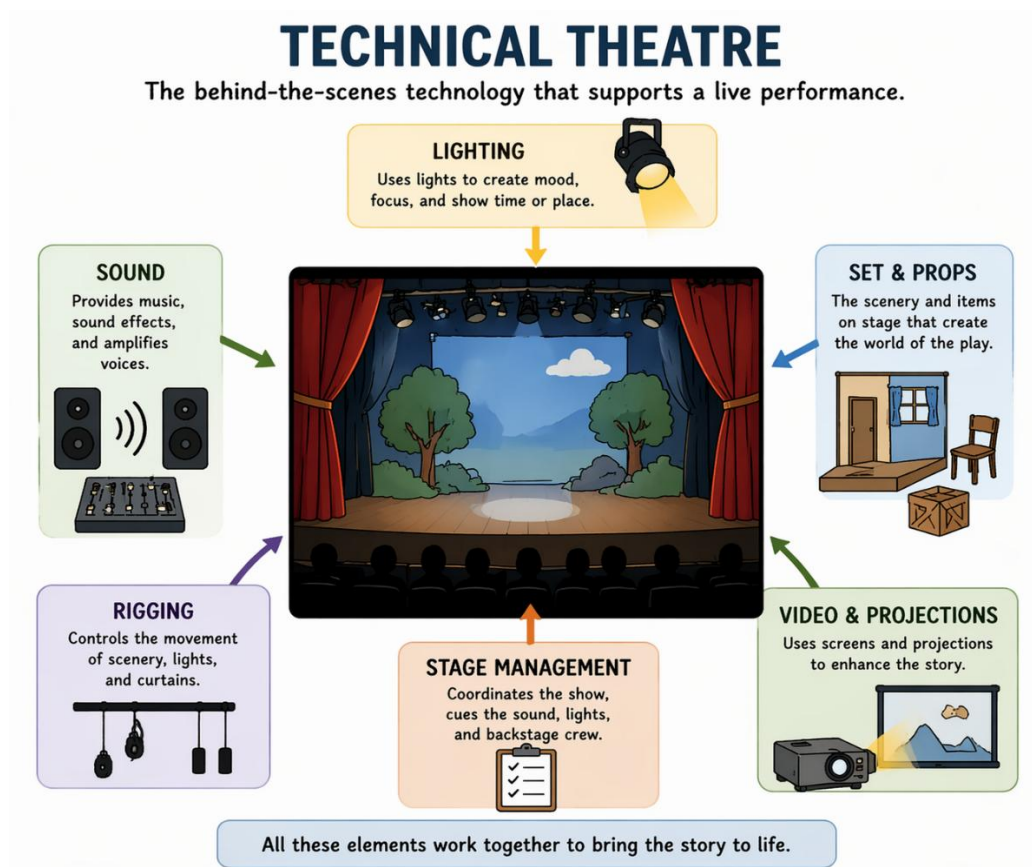


Figure 4.2 Technical theatre

Pilot questions 4.1

1. Theatre design refers to:

- A. Visual elements of production
- B. Acting
- C. Singing
- D. Dancing



2. Theatre design helps to create:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Mood and atmosphere
- D. Sound only

3. Set design creates the:

- A. Lighting
- B. Sound
- C. Costume
- D. Physical environment

4. Technical theatre includes:

- A. Acting
- B. Singing
- C. Dancing
- D. Lighting and sound

5. Props are used to:

- A. Support action
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Ignore performance



4.2 Costumes and Makeup In Production

4.2.1 Meaning of costumes in theatre

Costumes are an essential part of theatre production that contribute to the visual identity of characters.

The term costumes refers to the clothing and accessories worn by actors during a performance.

Costumes help define characters, indicate social status, and reflect the time and setting of the play. They also enhance the overall visual appeal of the production.

Understanding costumes helps you appreciate their role in storytelling and character development.

Fill in the blank: Costumes help define ____ in a play.



Figure 4.3 Costumes in theatre



4.2.2 Role of makeup in performance

Makeup is used to enhance or transform the appearance of actors.

The term makeup in theatre refers to the application of cosmetics to create a character's look, highlight facial expressions, and ensure visibility under stage lighting.

Makeup can be used to age characters, create special effects, or represent different identities.

Understanding makeup helps you see how visual transformation supports performance.

Fill in the blank: Makeup helps to ____ the appearance of actors.

FUNCTIONS OF MAKEUP

Makeup helps actors look their best on stage and supports the story.

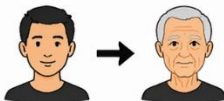
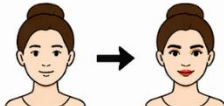
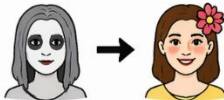
FUNCTION	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE	SIMPLE DIAGRAM
 TRANSFORMATION	Changes an actor's appearance to become a different character.	Turning a young actor into an old person.	
 VISIBILITY	Makes facial features clear so the audience can see expressions from a distance.	Darker eyebrows and lip colour help features stand out.	
 MOOD AND ATMOSPHERE	Uses colours and shading to match the mood and setting of the play.	Pale makeup for a ghost; bright colours for a joyful scene.	
 PROTECTION	Protects the actor's skin from strong stage lights and sweat.	Makeup creates a barrier that helps prevent irritation.	
 TIME AND AGE	Helps show the age or time period of a character.	Wrinkles for an older character; smooth look for a younger one.	

Table 4.2 Functions of makeup



4.2.3 costume and makeup design

Costume and makeup design involve planning and creating the visual appearance of characters.

Designers consider factors such as character personality, historical setting, and colour coordination. The goal is to ensure that costumes and makeup align with the overall production design.

Effective design enhances storytelling and creates a cohesive visual experience.

Fill in the blank: Costume and makeup design must align with the ____ of the production.



Figure 4.4 Costume and makeup design



4.3 Music and Supporting Elements in Production

4.3.1 Role of music in theatre

Music plays an important role in enhancing theatre production. The term music in theatre refers to the use of sound to support mood, emotion, and atmosphere in a performance.

Music can create tension, highlight dramatic moments, and guide audience emotions. It also helps in transitions between scenes.

Understanding the role of music helps you appreciate how sound contributes to storytelling.

Fill in the blank: Music helps to create ____ in a performance.

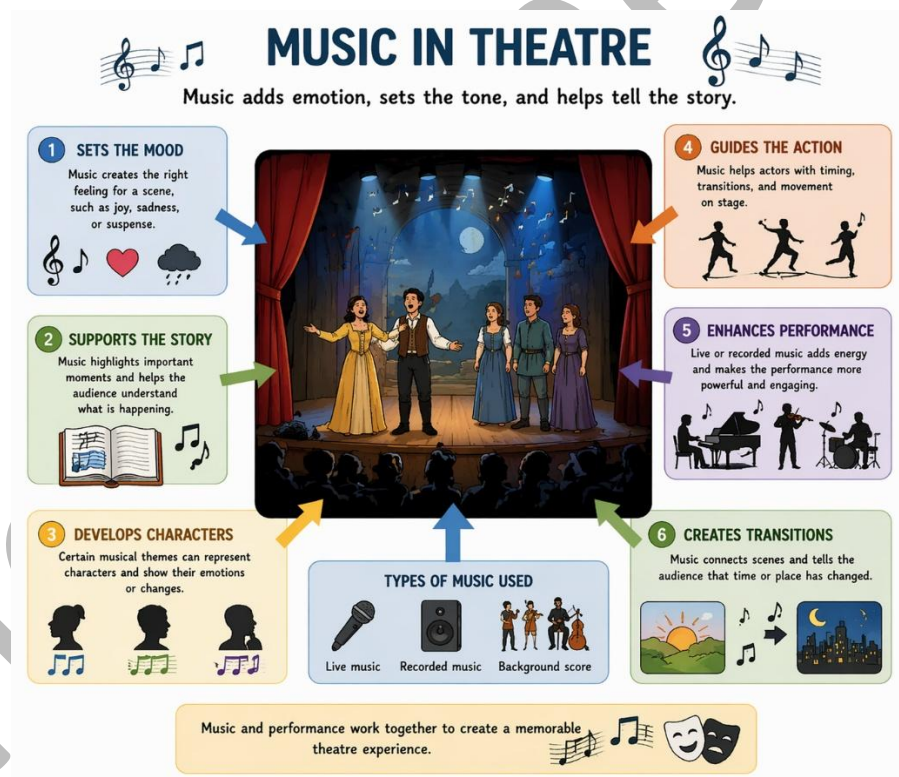


Figure 4.5 Music in theatre



4.3.2 sound and other technical elements

Sound and other technical elements support the overall production.

These include sound effects, microphones, and audio systems. Sound effects help create realism, while technical elements ensure clarity and coordination.

Other elements such as lighting and stage effects also contribute to the performance.

Understanding these elements helps you see how technical support enhances theatre.

Fill in the blank: Sound effects help create ____ in theatre.

TECHNICAL ELEMENTS IN THEATRE

Technical elements support the performance by helping the audience see, hear, and feel the story.

ELEMENT	PURPOSE	EXAMPLES	HOW IT HELPS
 SOUND	Makes the performance heard clearly and creates atmosphere.	• Dialogue • Music • Sound effects • Microphones • Speakers	Ensures the audience can hear the actors and sounds. Sets the mood and emphasises important moments.
 LIGHTING	Makes the performance visible and creates mood, focus, and time or place.	• Spotlights • Colour washes • Gobos • Dimmers • Lighting cues	Draws attention to the stage and actors. Shows changes in time, place, or emotion.
 EFFECTS	Adds special moments that make the story exciting and believable.	• Fog or smoke • Haze • Rain or wind • Projections • Pyrotechnics (safe use)	Creates realism or fantasy, builds atmosphere, and makes key moments more powerful.

Together, sound, lighting, and effects enhance the story and create a memorable experience for the audience.



Table 4.3 Technical elements in theatre



4.3.3 integration of design elements

The success of a theatre production depends on how well all design elements work together.

The term integration refers to combining different elements such as set, costume, lighting, and sound into a unified whole.

When these elements are well integrated, the production becomes more effective and engaging.

Understanding integration helps you appreciate the coordination required in theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Integration involves combining ____ elements.

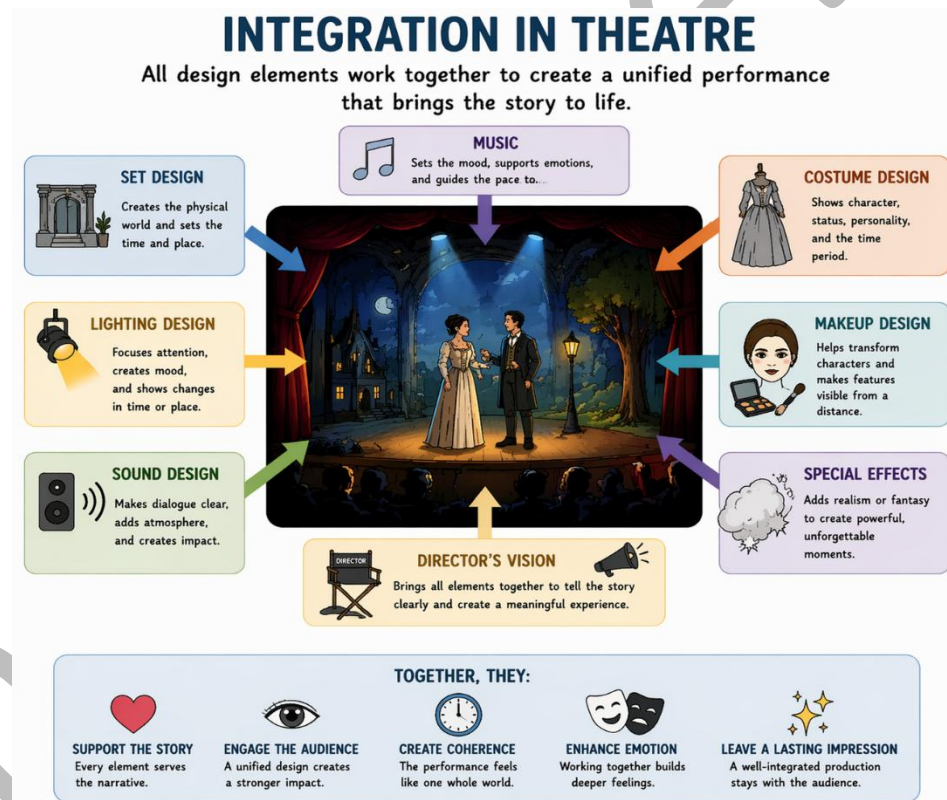


Figure 4.6 Integration in theatre

Pilot questions 4.3



1. Music in theatre is used to:

- A. Create mood
- B. Stop performance
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

2. Music helps to:

- A. Remove emotion
- B. Silence
- C. Guide audience feelings
- D. Numbers

3. Sound effects are used to:

- A. Silence
- B. Numbers
- C. Remove action
- D. Create realism

4. Technical elements include:

- A. Acting
- B. Singing
- C. Lighting and sound
- D. Dancing



5. Integration refers to:

- A. Separation
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Combining elements



Series summary

In this Series, you explored the visual and technical aspects of theatre production. You began by examining theatre design and technical theatre, including elements such as set, lighting, and props. You then studied costumes and makeup, focusing on their role in character development and visual presentation. Finally, you explored music and other technical elements, as well as how different design components are integrated to create a cohesive production.

By engaging with these topics, you should now be able to identify elements of theatre design, understand technical theatre components, explain the role of costumes and makeup, and analyse how music and design elements contribute to effective production. These skills align with the Series Learning Outcomes and enhance your understanding of theatre production.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Costumes: Clothing and accessories worn by actors to represent characters in a play.

Integration: The combination of different design elements such as set, lighting, and sound into a unified production.

Makeup: The use of cosmetics to enhance or transform the appearance of actors.

Music in theatre: The use of sound to create mood, emotion, and atmosphere in a performance.

Props: Objects used on stage to support the action of a play.

Set design: The creation of the physical environment where a play takes place.

Technical theatre: The use of technical equipment and skills such as lighting and sound in production.

Theatre design: The visual and physical elements that shape a theatrical performance.

Concept check questions 4

Objective questions



1. Theatre design refers to:

- A. Acting
- B. Visual elements of production
- C. Singing
- D. Dancing

(Linked to SLO 4.1)

2. Set design creates the:

- A. Physical environment
- B. Sound
- C. Costume
- D. Lighting

(Linked to SLO 4.1)

3. Makeup is used to:

- A. Ignore appearance
- B. Enhance appearance
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 4.4)

4. Music in theatre helps to:

- A. Remove emotion



B. Create mood

C. Silence

D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 4.5)

Short-answer questions

5. Explain the role of theatre design in production.

(Linked to SLO 4.1)

6. Identify elements of technical theatre.

(Linked to SLO 4.2)

7. Describe the importance of costumes and makeup in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 4.3, SLO 4.4)

8. Explain the role of music in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 4.5)

9. Describe how design elements are integrated in production.

(Linked to SLO 4.6)

Long-answer questions



10. Analyse the importance of theatre design and technical elements in production.

(Linked to SLO 4.1, SLO 4.2)

11. Evaluate the role of costumes and makeup in character development.

(Linked to SLO 4.3, SLO 4.4)

12. Examine how music and technical elements enhance theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 4.5, SLO 4.6)

Answers to concept check questions 4

Objective questions

1. B

2. A

3. B

4. B

Short-answer questions

5. Theatre design creates the visual environment and enhances storytelling in production.

6. Elements include lighting, sound, stage equipment, and technical effects.



7. Costumes and makeup define characters, enhance appearance, and support storytelling.

8. Music creates mood, supports emotion, and enhances dramatic effect.

9. Integration involves combining design elements such as set, lighting, and sound into a unified production.

Long-answer questions

10. Basic response: Theatre design is important in production.

Value-added response: Theatre design and technical elements create atmosphere, support storytelling, and enhance audience engagement through visual and technical coordination.

11. Basic response: Costumes and makeup help actors.

Value-added response: Costumes and makeup contribute to character identity, reflect setting, and enhance visual storytelling in theatre.

12. Basic response: Music supports production.

Value-added response: Music and technical elements enhance mood, realism, and audience experience by supporting the emotional and visual aspects of the performance.

Answers to pilot questions 4 (Final Fixed)



Pilot questions 4.1

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. A

Pilot questions 4.2

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. A

Pilot questions 4.3

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. D

References and attributions 4

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Wilson, E. (2018). The theatre experience (14th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.



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Schechner, R. (2013). Performance studies: An introduction (3rd ed.). Routledge.

Figure 4.1: Theatre design

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing elements of theatre design including set, lighting, and props.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre design elements diagram OER”

Figure 4.2: Technical theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing components of technical theatre such as lighting and sound.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “technical theatre components diagram OER”

Figure 4.3: Costumes in theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing types of costumes in theatre production.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre costumes diagram OER”

Figure 4.4: Costume and makeup design

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing the process of costume and makeup design in theatre.”

Tool: AI image generation platform



Search reference: “costume makeup design process theatre diagram OER”

Figure 4.5: Music in theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing how music supports mood and emotion in theatre.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “music in theatre diagram OER”

Figure 4.6: Integration in theatre

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing integration of set, costume, lighting, and sound in theatre.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre design integration diagram OER”

Table 4.1: Elements of theatre design

AI-assisted content based on theatre design studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing elements of theatre design.”

Search reference: “theatre design elements table OER”

Table 4.2: Functions of makeup

AI-assisted content based on performance studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing functions of makeup in theatre.”

Search reference: “theatre makeup functions table OER”

Table 4.3: Technical elements in theatre



AI-assisted content based on technical theatre practice

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing technical elements in theatre production.”

Search reference: “technical elements theatre table OER”



Series 5: Production Execution, Post-Production, and Critique Writing

5.1 Production Execution and Participation

- 5.1.1 Meaning of production execution
- 5.1.2 Student participation in theatre production
- 5.1.3 Roles during live performance

5.2 Post-Production Activities

- 5.2.1 Meaning of post-production
- 5.2.2 Evaluation of production
- 5.2.3 Reflection and feedback

5.3 Critique Writing in Theatre

- 5.3.1 Meaning of critique writing
- 5.3.2 Elements of a good critique
- 5.3.3 Writing a theatre critique

INTRODUCTION

The final stage of theatre production involves the actual execution of the performance, followed by evaluation and critical reflection. Participating in a live production allows students to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical setting, while post-production activities help assess the effectiveness of the performance. Critique writing further develops the ability to analyse and evaluate theatre productions objectively.

This series aims to guide you through production execution, post-production activities, and critique writing in theatre.

We shall commence this Series by examining production execution and student participation in live performances. Next, we will explore post-production activities, focusing on evaluation and feedback.



Finally, we will examine critique writing, highlighting how to analyse and assess theatre productions effectively.

Series learning outcomes

Upon completing this Series, you should be able to:

SLO 5.1 explain the process of production execution in theatre,

SLO 5.2 participate effectively in live theatre production,

SLO 5.3 describe roles during live performance,

SLO 5.4 explain post-production evaluation processes,

SLO 5.5 apply reflection and feedback in production review, and

SLO 5.6 write a structured critique of a theatre production.

5.1 Production Execution And Participation

5.1.1 meaning of production execution

Production execution refers to the actual staging of a play before an audience. The term **production execution** involves putting together all elements of theatre production, including acting, directing, technical support, and stage management, during a live performance.

This stage represents the culmination of all preparation and rehearsal efforts.

Understanding production execution helps you appreciate the transition from rehearsal to performance.

Fill in the blank: Production execution involves ____ a play before an audience.





Figure 5.1 Production execution

5.1.2 student participation in theatre production

Student participation is a key component of theatre training.

Students may take part as actors, stage managers, technical crew, or support staff. Participation allows students to apply theoretical knowledge in practical situations.

Active involvement helps build confidence and develop practical skills.

Understanding participation prepares you for real-world theatre production.

Fill in the blank: Participation helps students gain ____ experience.



TABLE 5.1 STUDENT ROLES IN PRODUCTION

Every student plays an important part in bringing a production to life.

ROLE	DESCRIPTION	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	SKILLS DEVELOPED
 ACTOR	Performs on stage and brings the characters and story to life.	- Learn lines and blocking - Rehearse and perform - Work with directors and fellow actors - Create believable characters	Confidence, communication, empathy, teamwork, and creativity.
 CREW MEMBER (TECHNICAL)	Works behind the scenes to support the performance in technical areas.	- Build and move sets - Operate lights and sound - Handle props and costume changes - Ensure smooth scene changes	Problem-solving, technical ability, attention to detail, and reliability.
 PRODUCTION MANAGER	Oversees the entire production process to keep everything on track.	- Create and manage schedules - Coordinate rehearsals - Communicate with all teams - Solve problems	Leadership, organisation, time management, and communication.
 DIRECTOR	Leads the creative vision and guides the actors and crew.	- Interpret the script - Plan staging and movement - Lead rehearsals - Make creative decisions	Creativity, leadership, decision-making, and collaboration.
 STAGE MANAGER	Manages the performance from rehearsal to final show.	- Run rehearsals - Call cues during the show - Keep the team organised - Solve problems quickly	Organisation, focus, leadership, and the ability to stay calm under pressure.
 COSTUME & MAKEUP TEAM	Designs and applies looks that help tell the story and develop characters.	- Design and create costumes - Apply makeup and hair - Maintain and organise supplies - Help with quick changes	Creativity, attention to detail, patience, and teamwork.
Every role matters. When students work together and respect each other's contributions, the production becomes a success. 			

Table 5.1 Student roles in production

5.1.3 roles during live performance

During live performance, each participant has specific responsibilities.

Actors perform their roles, stage managers coordinate activities, and technical teams handle lighting and sound. Each role contributes to the smooth execution of the production.

Coordination among all participants is essential for success.

Understanding these roles helps ensure effective performance.

Fill in the blank: Actors are responsible for ____ their roles.



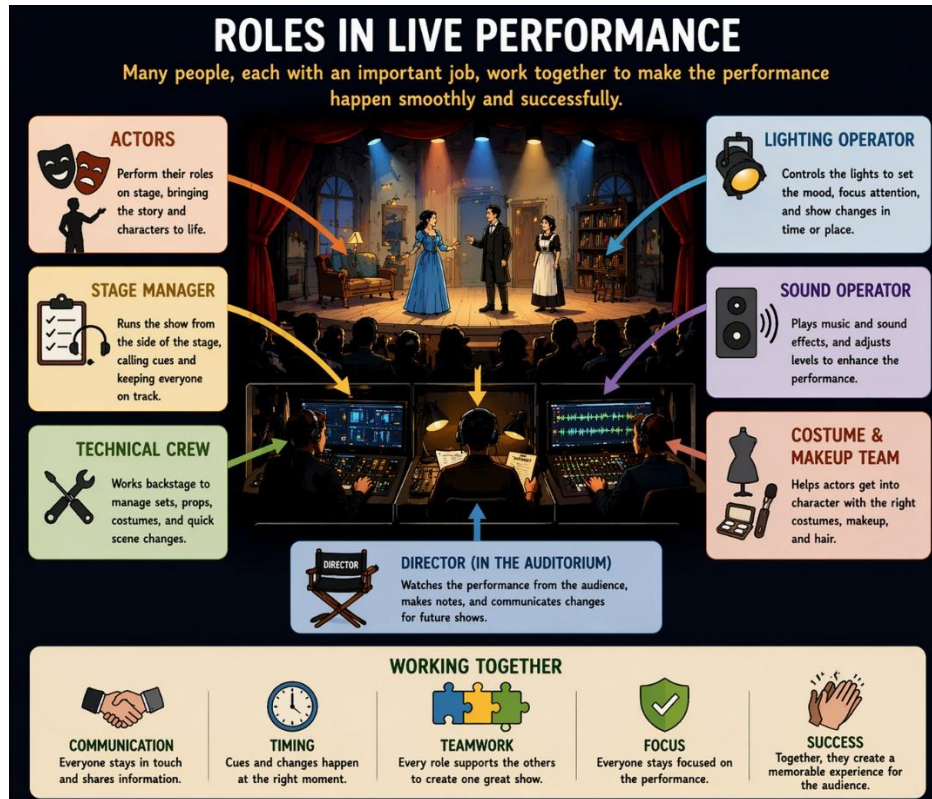


Figure 5.2 Roles in live performance

Pilot questions 5.1 (Corrected)

1. Production execution refers to:

- A. Practicing the play
- B. Writing scripts
- C. Staging the play
- D. Reading scripts

2. Production execution takes place:

- A. During rehearsal
- B. Before planning



- C. After writing
- D. During performance

3. Students can participate as:

- A. Audience only
- B. Silence
- C. Actors and crew
- D. Numbers

4. Participation helps students to:

- A. Lose skills
- B. Stop learning
- C. Ignore production
- D. Gain experience

5. Actors are responsible for:

- A. Designing sets
- B. Managing tickets
- C. Lighting
- D. Performing roles

5.2 Post-Production Activities

5.2.1 meaning of post-production



Post-production refers to the activities that take place after a theatre performance has been completed. The term **post-production** involves reviewing, evaluating, and documenting the production process and outcome.

This stage allows the production team to assess what worked well and identify areas for improvement.

Understanding post-production helps you appreciate the importance of evaluation in theatre.

Fill in the blank: Post-production occurs ____ the performance.

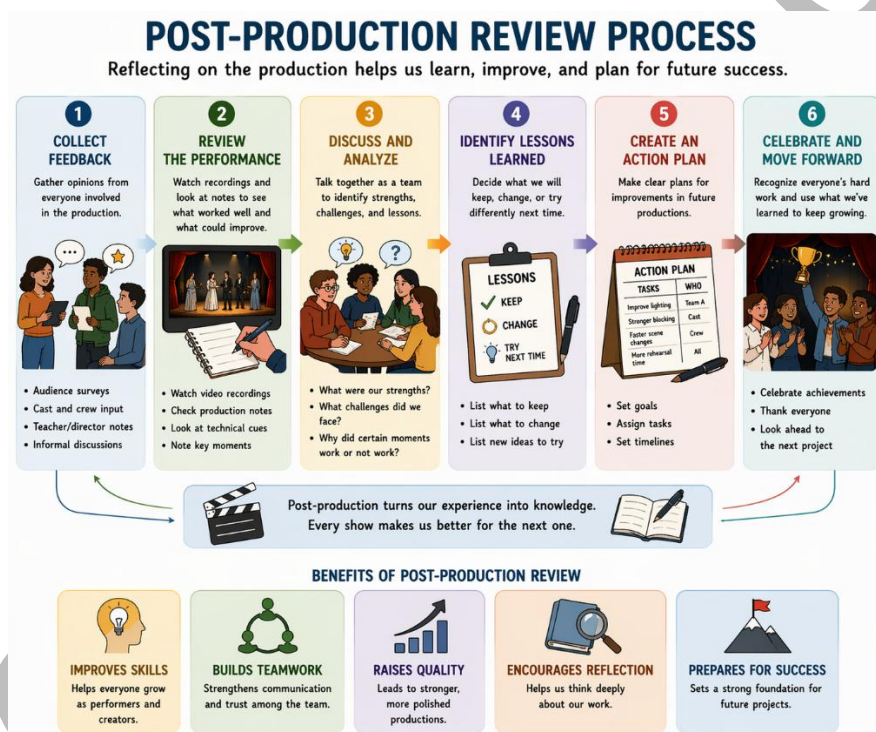


Figure 5.3 Post-production

5.2.2 evaluation of production

Evaluation is a key part of post-production.

The term **production evaluation** refers to assessing the effectiveness of a performance. This includes analysing acting, directing, technical elements, and audience response.

Evaluation helps identify strengths and weaknesses in the production.



Understanding evaluation helps improve future performances.

Fill in the blank: Evaluation involves ____ the production.

TABLE 5.2 PRODUCTION EVALUATION We reflect on each aspect of the production to celebrate strengths and identify areas for improvement.					
ASPECT	FOCUS QUESTIONS	EXCELLENT (4 POINTS)	GOOD (3 POINTS)	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (1–2 POINTS)	COMMENTS
 ACTING	How believable and engaging were the performances? Did the actors connect with the audience?	Performances were powerful, believable, and fully engaged the audience.	Performances were clear and mostly engaging, with some strong moments.	Performances lacked energy, believability, or connection with the audience.	
 DIRECTING	How well was the story interpreted and guided? Were the scenes clear and effective?	The vision was clear and creative. Scenes flowed smoothly and supported the story.	The vision was mostly clear. Scenes were effective with minor issues.	The vision was unclear or inconsistent. Scenes felt disjointed or confusing.	
 TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE	How well did lighting, sound, sets, and effects support the production? Were cues well executed?	Technical elements were well-designed, on cue, and enhanced the production.	Technical elements were effective with occasional timing or quality issues.	Technical elements distracted from the production or had many cue errors.	
 DESIGN (COSTUME, SET, AND MAKEUP)	How well did the design elements create the world and support the characters and story?	Designs were creative, appropriate, and strongly supported the story.	Designs were suitable and helpful, with some strong choices.	Designs were inconsistent or did not support the story or characters effectively.	
 CREW TEAMWORK	How well did the crew work together? Was communication and problem-solving effective?	The crew worked seamlessly, communicated clearly, and solved problems quickly.	The crew worked well together with minor communication challenges.	Communication was weak or disorganized, causing delays or mistakes.	
 OVERALL IMPACT	What was the overall impact on the audience? Was the production memorable?	The production was memorable, moving, and left a strong impression.	The production was enjoyable and held the audience's attention.	The production had little impact or was forgettable.	
	OVERALL SCORE (out of 24 points)	_____ / 24	_____ / 24	_____ / 24	
Every production is a learning opportunity. Let's celebrate our achievements and plan how to grow together! 					

Table 5.2 Production evaluation

5.2.3 reflection and feedback

Reflection and feedback are important for learning and improvement.

The term **reflection** refers to thinking critically about the production process, while **feedback** involves receiving comments and suggestions from others.

Both help improve skills and enhance future productions.

Understanding reflection and feedback supports continuous development in theatre.



Fill in the blank: Feedback helps to ____ future productions.

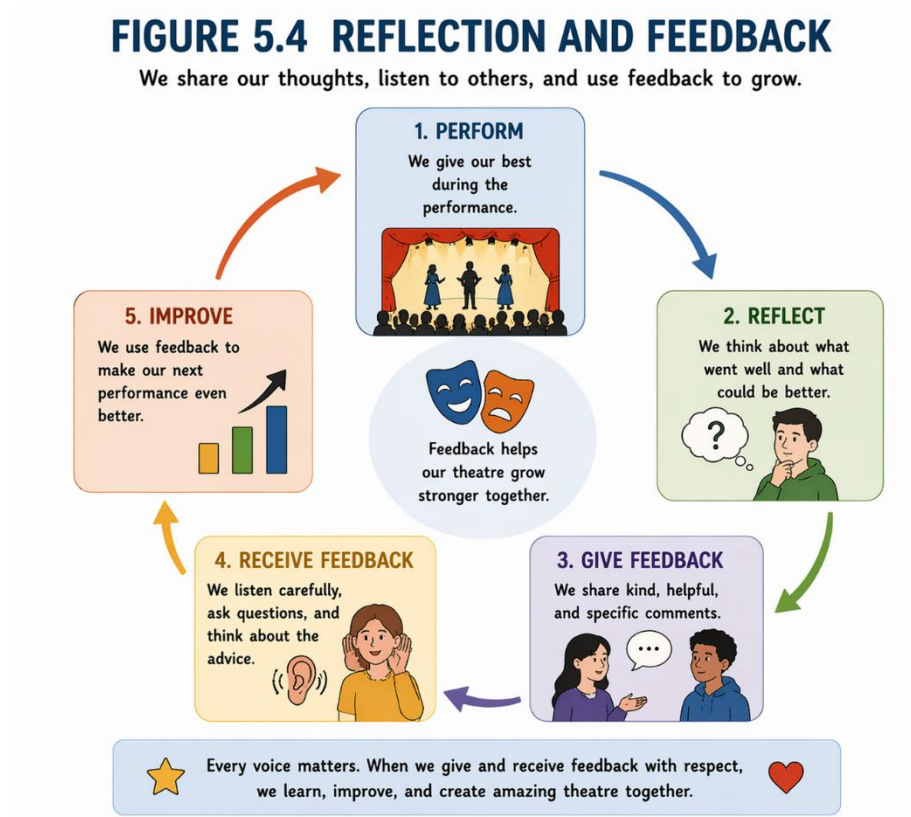


Figure 5.4 Reflection and feedback

Pilot questions 5.2 (Corrected)

1. Post-production refers to:

- A. Acting
- B. Activities before performance



- C. Singing
- D. Activities after performance

2. Evaluation involves:

- A. Silence
- B. Ignoring performance
- C. Assessing the production
- D. Numbers

3. Post-production helps to:

- A. Stop learning
- B. Silence
- C. Improve future work
- D. Numbers

4. Reflection involves:

- A. Ignoring feedback
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Thinking critically

5. Feedback is used to:

- A. Improve production
- B. Stop production



C. Silence

D. Numbers

5.3 Critique Writing In Theatre

5.3.1 meaning of critique writing

Critique writing in theatre refers to the process of analysing and evaluating a performance. The term **critique writing** involves expressing informed opinions about a production based on observation and understanding.

A critique goes beyond simple description; it examines the effectiveness of acting, directing, design, and overall presentation.

Understanding critique writing helps you develop analytical and evaluative skills in theatre.

Fill in the blank: Critique writing involves ____ a performance.



FIGURE 5.5 CRITIQUE WRITING

A good critique explains, supports opinions with examples, and suggests ways to improve.

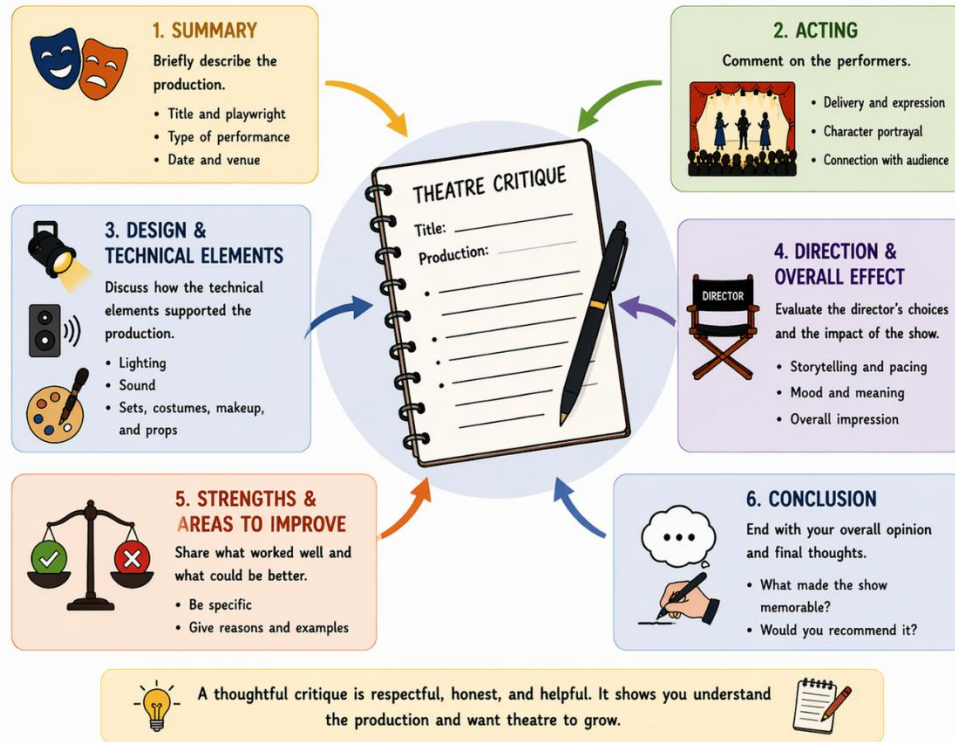


Figure 5.5 Critique writing

5.3.2 elements of a good critique

A good critique includes several key elements.

These include a summary of the production, analysis of performance elements, evaluation of strengths and weaknesses, and a conclusion.

A well-written critique is clear, objective, and supported by examples.

Understanding these elements helps you write effective critiques.

Fill in the blank: A good critique includes analysis and ____.



TABLE 5.3 ELEMENTS OF CRITIQUE

A strong critique includes these parts to describe, analyze, and suggest improvement.

ELEMENT	PURPOSE	WHAT TO INCLUDE
 1. SUMMARY	Give a brief overview of the production.	- Title of the play - Type of performance - Date, venue, and production team (if known) - A short statement of what the show was about
 2. ACTING	Evaluate the performers and their portrayal of characters.	- How well did the actors deliver their lines? - Were the characters believable? - How did the actors connect with the audience?
 3. DESIGN & TECHNICAL ELEMENTS	Discuss the technical elements that supported the production.	- Lighting: How did it affect the mood? - Sound: How was it used? - Sets, costumes, makeup, props: How did they support the story?
 4. DIRECTION & OVERALL EFFECT	Consider the director's choices and the overall impact of the show.	- How did the director use staging and pacing? - What mood or message was created? - What was your overall impression?
 5. STRENGTHS & AREAS TO IMPROVE	Share what worked well and what could be better.	- What were the production's strengths? Give examples. - What could be improved? Give suggestions.
 6. CONCLUSION	End with your overall opinion and final thoughts.	- What made the show memorable? - Would you recommend it? Why or why not? - A final sentence that sums up your critique.

Table 5.3 Elements of critique

5.3.3 writing a theatre critique

Writing a theatre critique requires organisation and clarity.

You should begin with an introduction, followed by a summary, analysis, and evaluation. The critique should be structured logically and supported by evidence.

Good critique writing helps improve understanding of theatre production.

Understanding how to write a critique enhances your analytical skills.

Fill in the blank: A critique should be ____ and well-structured.



FIGURE 5.6 STRUCTURE OF CRITIQUE

A clear structure helps your reader understand your ideas.

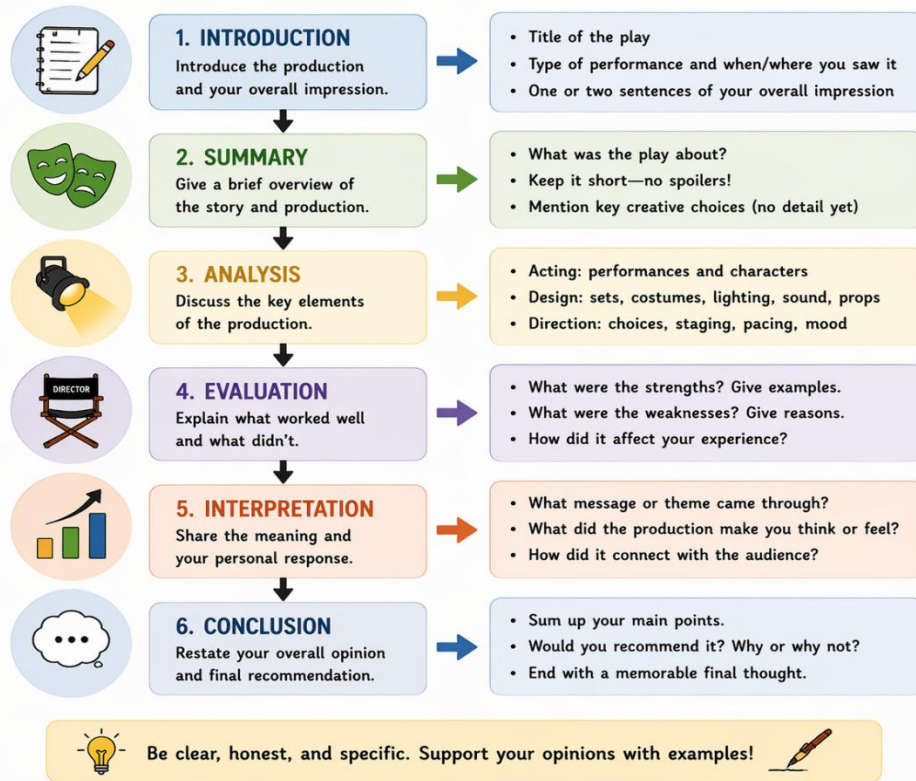


Figure 5.6 Structure of critique

Pilot questions 5.2

1. Post-production refers to:

- A. Acting
- B. Activities before performance
- C. Singing
- D. Activities after performance



2. Evaluation involves:

- A. Silence
- B. Ignoring performance
- C. Assessing the production
- D. Numbers

3. Post-production helps to:

- A. Stop learning
- B. Silence
- C. Improve future work
- D. Numbers

4. Reflection involves:

- A. Ignoring feedback
- B. Silence
- C. Numbers
- D. Thinking critically

5. Feedback is used to:

- A. Improve production
- B. Stop production
- C. Silence
- D. Numbers



Series summary

In this Series, you examined the final stages of theatre production, focusing on execution, evaluation, and critique. You began by exploring production execution and student participation in live performances, highlighting the roles and responsibilities involved. You then studied post-production activities, including evaluation, reflection, and feedback. Finally, you learned about critique writing, focusing on how to analyse and evaluate theatre productions effectively.

By engaging with these topics, you should now be able to participate in live productions, evaluate performances, and write structured critiques. These skills align with the Series Learning Outcomes and prepare you for professional engagement in theatre production.

Glossary of terms

Critique writing: The process of analysing and evaluating a theatre performance.

Feedback: Comments and suggestions given to improve future productions.

Post-production: Activities that occur after a performance, including evaluation and review.

Production evaluation: The assessment of a theatre production's effectiveness.

Production execution: The staging of a play before an audience.

Reflection: The process of thinking critically about a production to identify strengths and weaknesses.

Student participation: The involvement of students in various roles during theatre production.

Live performance: The presentation of a play before an audience in real time.

Concept check questions 5

Objective questions

1. Production execution refers to:

- A. Practicing the play
- B. Staging the play
- C. Writing scripts



D. Reading scripts

(Linked to SLO 5.1)

2. Post-production refers to:

A. Activities before performance

B. Activities after performance

C. Acting

D. Singing

(Linked to SLO 5.4)

3. Evaluation involves:

A. Ignoring performance

B. Assessing the production

C. Silence

D. Numbers

(Linked to SLO 5.4)

4. Critique writing refers to:

A. Describing costumes

B. Analysing a performance

C. Singing

D. Dancing

(Linked to SLO 5.6)



Short-answer questions

5. Explain the process of production execution.

(Linked to SLO 5.1)

6. Describe post-production activities in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 5.4)

7. Explain the importance of evaluation in theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 5.4)

8. Describe the role of reflection and feedback in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 5.5)

9. Explain the structure of a theatre critique.

(Linked to SLO 5.6)

Long-answer questions

10. Analyse the importance of participation in live theatre production.

(Linked to SLO 5.2, SLO 5.3)

11. Evaluate the role of post-production in improving theatre performance.

(Linked to SLO 5.4, SLO 5.5)



12. Examine the process and importance of critique writing in theatre.

(Linked to SLO 5.6)

Answers to concept check questions 5

Objective questions

1. B

2. B

3. B

4. B

Short-answer questions

5. Production execution involves staging a play through coordinated performance of actors and technical teams.

6. Post-production includes evaluation, reflection, and documentation of the production.

7. Evaluation helps identify strengths and weaknesses to improve future productions.

8. Reflection and feedback support learning, improvement, and development of skills.



9. A critique includes introduction, summary, analysis, evaluation, and conclusion.

Long-answer questions

10. Basic response: Participation is important in theatre.

Value-added response: Participation allows practical application of skills, enhances teamwork, and builds confidence in live performance.

11. Basic response: Post-production helps review performance.

Value-added response: Post-production evaluation improves future productions by identifying strengths, weaknesses, and areas for development.

12. Basic response: Critique writing evaluates theatre.

Value-added response: Critique writing develops analytical skills and provides structured evaluation of performances, enhancing understanding of theatre production.

Answers to pilot questions 5 (Final Fixed)

Pilot questions 5.1

1. C

2. D

3. C

4. D



5. D

Pilot questions 5.2

1. D

2. C

3. C

4. D

5. A

Pilot questions 5.3

1. C

2. D

3. D

4. B

5. A



References and attributions 5

Cohen, R. (2017). *Theatre* (11th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Wilson, E. (2018). *The theatre experience* (14th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Brockett, O. G., & Hildy, F. J. (2014). *History of the theatre* (11th ed.). Pearson.

Schechner, R. (2013). *Performance studies: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

Figure 5.1: Production execution

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing a live theatre production with actors and technical elements.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “live theatre production diagram OER”

Figure 5.2: Roles in live performance

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing roles of actors, stage managers, and crew during live performance.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “live performance roles theatre diagram OER”

Figure 5.3: Post-production

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing post-production activities such as review and evaluation.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “post production theatre diagram OER”

Figure 5.4: Reflection and feedback

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing feedback and reflection process in theatre production.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “feedback reflection theatre diagram OER”



Figure 5.5: Critique writing

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing elements of theatre critique such as analysis and evaluation.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre critique diagram OER”

Figure 5.6: Structure of critique

AI-generated illustration using prompt: “Create a diagram showing structure of a theatre critique including introduction and evaluation.”

Tool: AI image generation platform

Search reference: “theatre critique structure diagram OER”

Table 5.1: Student roles in production

AI-assisted content based on theatre practice

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing student roles in theatre production.”

Search reference: “student roles theatre table OER”

Table 5.2: Production evaluation

AI-assisted content based on theatre studies

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing aspects of theatre production evaluation.”

Search reference: “production evaluation theatre table OER”

Table 5.3: Elements of critique

AI-assisted content based on performance analysis

Suggested prompt: “Create a table listing elements of a theatre critique.”

Search reference: “theatre critique elements table OER”

