Theatrical Terms

As in all subjects, Drama has its own specialist terms, words and phrases. Using the correct terms speeds up explanation, clarifies meaning and enables you to be much more specific.

A speech delivered to the audience, supposedly not heard by the characters on stage.



Backdrop Scenery hung at the back of the stage.

Cue

Flies

Iron

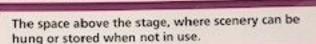
Prompt

Truck

A signal prompting an event in a performance, e.g. an actor's speech or entrance, a lighting or sound effect.



Flat pieces of scenery which can be painted to give the appearance of buildings or setting.



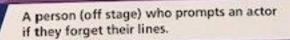


Gauze A material which can be see-through when lit from behind, or appear solid when lit from the front.

A safety curtain separating the stage from the audience in Proscenium Arch theatres.



LX & SFX LX - Lighting effects. SFX - Sound effects.





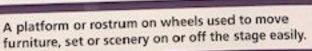
Props (properties) Items used by an actor during a performance, e.g. cups, books, weapons etc.



Rostra Wooden stage blocks or small platforms.



Stage Manager Person in charge of running the show from the wings.





Wings

The unseen area on either side of the stage hidden from the audience's view.



