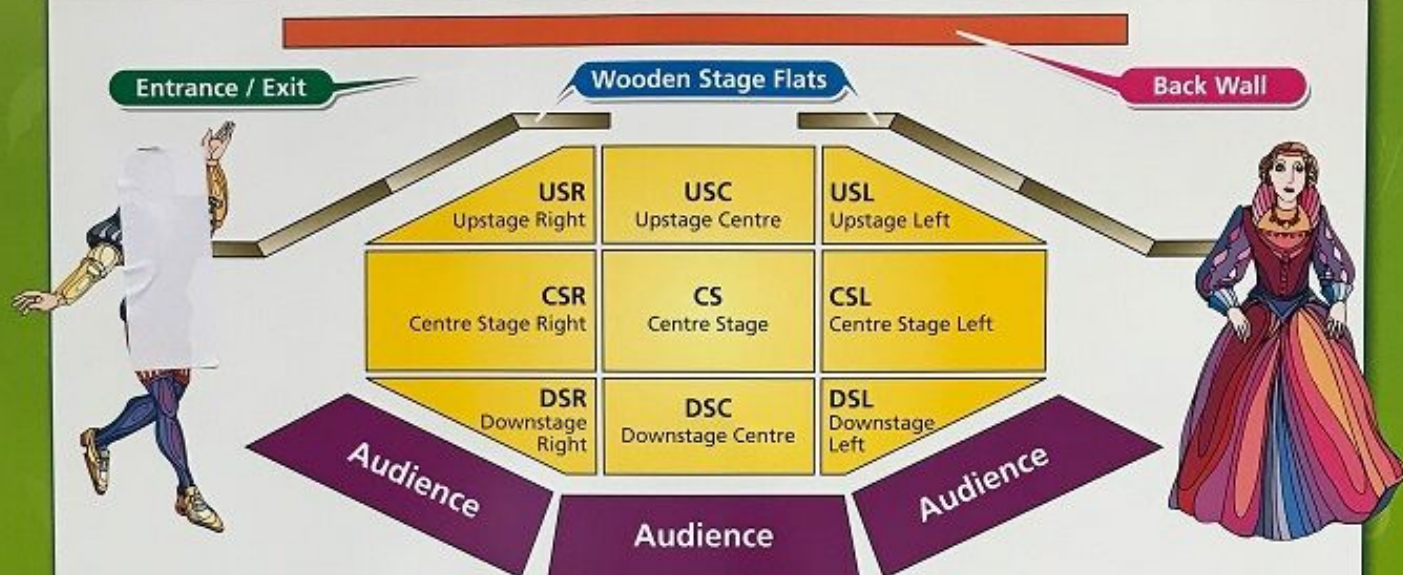


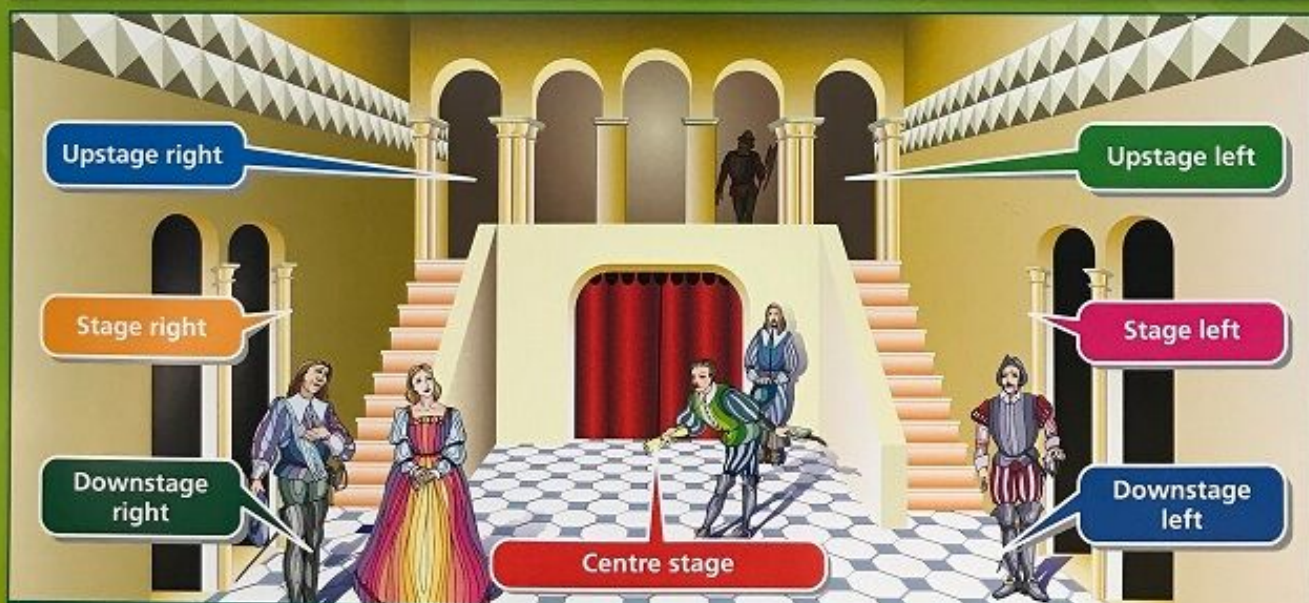
Stage Positioning

'Proscenium Arch' and 'Thrust' both use the following labelling system.

The Stage is labelled according to the actor's left and right: downstage is closest to the audience, upstage is furthest from the audience.



The words 'upstage' and 'downstage' are used because traditionally stages slope downwards from the back towards the front. This is known as a 'rake' and is used so the audience have a better view of the actors at the rear of the stage.



- Centre Stage is usually the most important position as it is the area of central focus.
- Downstage is closest to the audience making intimacy easier.
- Upstage is a position that allows actors to do things which characters in front of them cannot see.

'Traverse Theatre' and 'Theatre in the Round' do not have any specific way of being labelled, but if you are drawing a ground plan of a set-design it is best to split it into areas A,B,C,D etc, in order to be clear about what should happen where.