# Staging key words

Traverse stage	A **traverse stage** is a form of theatrical stage in which the audience is predominantly on two sides of the stage, facing towards each other. The stage is also commonly known as an alley or corridor stage.
Theatre-in-the-round	Theatre-in-the-round, also spelled theater-in-the-round, also called arena stage, central stage, or island stage, form of theatrical staging in which the acting area, which may be raised or at floor level, is completely surrounded by the audience.
Proscenium stage	A stage where the audience sits on one side only is called a proscenium stage (you might know this as end-on staging). The audience faces one side of the stage directly, and normally sits at a lower height.
Thrust stage	In theatre, a thrust stage (also known as a platform stage or open stage) is one that extends into the audience on three sides and is connected to the backstage area by its upstage end.
Upstage	Upstage - at or towards the back of a theatre stage. "Hamlet turns to face upstage"
Downstage	Downstage - at or towards the front of a stage. "all four run for their lives downstage"
Centre stage	The centre of a stage. "I took my place in the darkened centre stage"
Stage left	On the left (or right) side of a stage from the point of view of a performer facing the audience. "a woman entered stage left"
Stage right	On the left (or right) side of a stage from the point of view of a performer facing the audience. "a woman entered stage left"
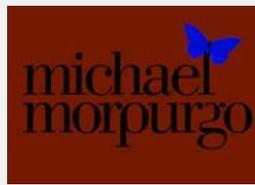
Creating a character

The status of a character is important as it affects how you will act. Status in drama is the level within society that a character holds. For instance, a king would have very high status while a peasant would have very low status. Status can be raised or lowered depending on other characters

Think about how Johnny Depp has created the character of Jack Sparrow. There was a significant amount of detail put in to creating this character such as the use of voice in the way he talks, movement to create a distinctive walk, and hand gestures when talking.

Use the following questions as a starting point to ask yourself when creating a character:
1. Who am I?
2. Where am I?
3. When is it?
4. Where have I just come from?
5. What do I want?

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