

Drama

Theatre Roles and responsibilities

Theatre Creators

Playwright	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writes the script of the play, including dialogue and stage directions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares the script
Performer	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears in a production, e.g. as an actor, dancer, singer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns lines and blocking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates a performance or assumes a role on stage in front of an audience. 	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears before an audience and performs their role(s). 	
Understudy	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns a part, including lines and movements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns the role(s) they are covering.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes over a role if there is a planned or unexpected absence. 	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is prepared to 'go on' in case of an absence. 	

Director	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversees the creative aspects of the production. Develops the 'concept' for the production. Liaises with designers & stage manager. Rehearses the performers – gives notes and agrees blocking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reads and studies the play – decides concept. Casts performers.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehearses performers.



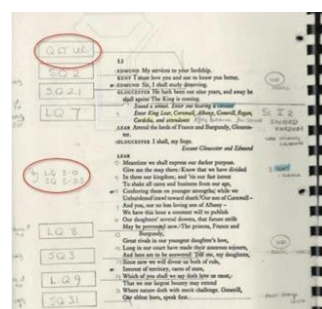
Designers

Set Designer	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designs the set of the play and the set dressing (objects placed on the stage). Provides sketches and other design materials. Oversees the creation of the set. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researches the play/context. Develops set design ideas.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures the set is built and operates correctly.

Costume Designer	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designs what the performers wear on stage. Makes sure that costumes are appropriate for the style and period of the piece. Ensures the costumes fit the performers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researches the play/context. Develops costume design ideas.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organises costume fittings for performers.

Sound Designer	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designs the sound required for the performance, this might include music and sound effects. Considers if amplification e.g. microphones are needed. Creates the soundplot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researches the play/context. Develops sound design ideas.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates plot sheets and cues for the sound.

crew



Lighting Designer	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designs the lighting effects and states that will be used. Understands the technical capabilities of the theatre. Creates the lighting plot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researches the play/context. Develops lighting design ideas.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates plot sheets and cues for the lighting.

Puppet Designer	<u>BEFORE REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designs the puppets for a production. Considers the style of the puppets and how they will be operated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researches the play/context. Develops puppet design ideas.
	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes and provides puppets for rehearsals.

Stage Manager

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Runs the backstage elements of the play and supervises the backstage crew. Organises the rehearsal schedule. Keeps a list of props and other technical needs. Creates a promptbook. Calls the cues for the performance. 	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates rehearsal schedules and props list. Notes blocking and creates promptbook. 	
	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures the smooth running of the show. 'Calls' the show by announcing cues to cast and technicians. 	

Technician

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operates the technical equipment, e.g. lighting and sound boards, during a performance. 	<u>DURING REHEARSALS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run the technical elements during technical and dress rehearsals. 	
	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operates the technical equipment, e.g. sound board. 	

Theatre Manager

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Runs the theatre building, including overseeing the Front of House staff. 	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversees the operation of Front of House and box office.

Front of House Staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Box Office: where audience members can buy/collect their tickets. Ushers: look after the audience in the auditorium. 	<u>IN PERFORMANCE</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sell programmes and show memorabilia. Show audience members to their seats.

Dig Deeper Questions

- Which roles do you think will have to work closely together?
- Why are communication skills so important for each of these roles?
- Which role do you think would be the most challenging role? Why?
- Which role do you think is the most important? Why?

