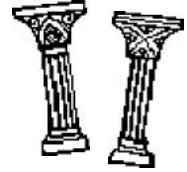


NAME _____ DATE _____

Ancient Greek Theatre



The theatre is a great semi-circle on the slope of the Acropolis, with rows of stone seats on which about _____ spectators can sit.

The front row consists of marble chairs, the only seats in the theatre which have backs, and these are reserved for the priests of Dionysus and the chief magistrates. _____ was the Greek god of fertility and wine.

Drama formed part of _____ festivals. It was considered a religious event to attend the theatre. The Greek theatre was held _____, first in the market place, then in large open-air stadiums or theatres.

Important people had stone seats reserved for them at the _____ of the theatre. It was one of the few public events to be attended by _____ men and women. There was a small _____ fee, but anyone who could not afford it was allowed in for free.

Beyond the front row, is a circular space called the _____, where the Chorus sings, and in the center of which stands the _____ of Dionysus.

Behind the orchestra, is the _____ on which the actors will act, at the back of which is a building painted to look like the front of a temple or a palace, to which the actors retire when they are not wanted on the stage or have to change their costumes.

The _____ is an entrance affording access either to the stage or the orchestra of the _____ theater. The two parodoi are located on either side of the stage, between it and the _____.

There was very little _____ on stage. The theater was open to the sky. Much would have been left up to the audience's imagination; however, the simplicity of the surroundings would have helped the audience all their attention to the play and the acting known as the scripting.

Plays were put on once a _____ and lasted a day. The plays were often about well-known stories, like _____ and legends. The members of the audience showed their enjoyment by doing what two things: 1) _____
2) _____ If an actor made a mistake, or if the members of the audience did not like him they would boo and sometimes throw stones at him.

All the actors were men. They wore masks to show the audience whether their characters were _____ or old, ugly or beautiful and _____ or female. The masks were simple and the faces very exaggerated, so that they could be seen right at the back of the theatre. They had large open mouths to make the _____ of the actors seem louder.

The _____ was an important part of a Greek play. It was made up of a group of actors who, throughout the play, moved and spoke together and were dressed the same way. They talked to the audience and explained what was going on in the play and how they felt about it.