

Chapter 1: Foundations

1. The _____ banned theatre between 1642 and 1660 in England.
- a. Greeks
 - b. Puritans
 - c. Catholic Church
 - d. monarchy

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: A-Head: Introduction

2. Both theatre and various forms of modern media have been accused by critics as asserting a _____ influence on young people.
- a. calming
 - b. positive
 - c. dangerous
 - d. boring

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: A-Head: Introduction

3. What is the name of the theatre director who wrote the following? “I can take any empty space and call it a bare stage. A man walks across this empty space whilst someone else is watching him, and this is all that is needed for an act of theatre to be engaged.”
- a. Julie Taymor
 - b. Eric Bentley
 - c. Peter Brook
 - d. John Millington Synge

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: A-Head: The Basic Elements of Theatre

4. Which of the following is not considered a basic element of theatre?
- a. The duration of the performance
 - b. What is performed
 - c. The performance
 - d. The audience

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: A-Head: The Basic Elements of Theatre

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5. What is the most basic, full definition of the art form known as theatre?
- a. A building that houses entertainment
 - b. Someone performing something for someone else
 - c. What is performed
 - d. A written text

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: A-Head: The Basic Elements of Theatre

6. The rising costs of Broadway production tickets has made audiences _____.
- a. willing to see any production
 - b. not willing to see theatre at all
 - c. hesitant to attend unless they are sure they will like the production
 - d. form picket lines in Times Square

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: A-Head: The Basic Elements of Theatre

7. Plays show us a reflection of basic assumptions of the _____ from which the plays have come.
- a. patron
 - b. arts funding organization
 - c. production company
 - d. society

ANSWER: d

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

8. Dramatic performances share many characteristics with sports and games, but differ in what way?
- a. Unlike theatre, games rely on conventions (agreed-upon rules, practices and procedures).
 - b. Unlike games, theatre pits one side against another.
 - c. Unlike theatre, games build suspense.
 - d. Unlike games, in most scripted dramas the outcome is determined before the performance begins.

ANSWER: d

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

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9. Which statement best describes “willing suspension of disbelief”?
- a. A technique used by actors in which they defer their own reality to accept that of the play
 - b. A dynamic in which the audience agrees to accept the fictional world of the play on an imaginative level while knowing it to be untrue.
 - c. A psychological dynamic in which one group of audience members can affect the responses of others to an event, particularly if they share the same cultural background.
 - d. A dynamic in which performers are lifted into the air via ropes but think they are actually flying

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

10. Which of the following best describes how art affects us?
- a. Aesthetically and empathically, allowing us to simultaneously gain insight from and be emotionally involved in an experience
 - b. Similarly to sporting events, allowing us to root for a player or character because of our feelings for and knowledge of this character even before the play begins
 - c. In a deeply intellectual way, allowing us to be stimulated in a logical way without involving emotions
 - d. As a practical insight into the lives of human beings, allowing us to see the world as a psychologist would study human behavior in a laboratory experiment

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

11. Some critics have charged that film dulls the imagination, whereas theatre stimulates it, because film(s) _____.
- a. uses more special effects
 - b. is more literal than theatre, showing every detail, whereas theatre requires the audience to imagine what cannot be shown
 - c. can be shot in a variety of settings
 - d. allows for close-ups

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: A-Head: Special Qualities of Theatre

12. What are some qualities that help distinguish theatre from the other arts?
- a. Ephemeral nature, objectivity, emotions, and lifelikeness
 - b. Complexity of means, objectivity, immediacy, and lifelikeness
 - c. Quality of life, human experience, lines, and dialogue
 - d. Objectivity, human experience, emotions, and stories

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: A-Head: Special Qualities of Theatre

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13. In film and television, the _____ controls what the audience sees; it frames the picture, restricting the audience's view.
- a. production company
 - b. setting
 - c. camera
 - d. border

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: A-Head: Special Qualities of Theatre

14. Why does theatre have tremendous potential as a “humanizing force”?
- a. Because it is considered the highest form of artistic expression among elitist groups.
 - b. Because it prompts us to value different cultures by dehumanizing others so that we do not think of their hopes or sufferings, but instead treat them as objects to be manipulated.
 - c. Because it asks us to enter imaginatively into the lives of others so that we may understand their aspirations and motivations.
 - d. Because it human-like qualities to non-human entities such as animals and inanimate objects.

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: A-Head: Art and Value

15. Some people have difficulty finding _____ in the arts because they view them as expendable “frills” that can be eliminated during times of financial stress.
- a. directors
 - b. scene designers
 - c. a career
 - d. value

ANSWER: d

REFERENCES: A-Head: Art and Value

16. Theatre became an art form at least 2,500 years ago.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: A-Head: Introduction

17. There are right and wrong responses to works of art.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

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18. While historians, philosophers, and scientists work from their own perceptions and seek to involve humans' emotions, imagination, and intellect, artists primarily work by drawing conclusions in logical, expository prose.
- True
 - False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

19. Theatre draws upon all of the other arts: literature, painting, architecture, and sculpture, speech, music, and dance.
- True
 - False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: A-Head: Special Qualities of Theatre

20. Education designed for competency in standardized tests has failed to cultivate major aspects of human intelligence and potential in the arts.
- True
 - False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: A-Head: Multiple Intelligences Theory and the Arts

21. "A does B for C" is perhaps the simplest definition of theatre. Who is "A," what is "B," and who is "C"? What aspect or role does each contribute to the theatre experience? How do they interact with or influence each other?

ANSWER:

- A is/a the performer(s)
- B is the piece being performed (a play, scenario, or plan)
- C is the audience (the perceivers)
- A presents the work being performed
- B provides subject matter and form
- C affects the pace of the performance as it interacts directly with A
- A's interpretation of B influences how C experiences B, and C's interaction direct interaction with A affects A's presentation of B

REFERENCES: A-Head: The Basic Elements of Theatre

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22. A play's cultural context informs and influences the story that's told and how it's received. Choose a work of theatre you've seen and explain how this context had an effect on the play or the production.

ANSWER:

- The play appealed to popular culture or more elitist tastes
- The performance embraced a particular political ideology.
- The play told a traditional beginning, middle, and end narrative, such as a play by Arthur Miller, or had a more abstract form, such as *Waiting for Godot*
- The piece used heightened language or the characters' diction was closer to everyday speech.
- Characters violated or reinforced established societal conventions such as gender roles
- The design was stylized/exaggerated or the production elements looked and sounded more like real life.

REFERENCES: A-Head: Theatre as a Form of Art

23. How does theatre operate differently from film or television?

ANSWER:

- Theatre is ephemeral (lasting only in the moment); even live television is typically recorded and can be played back
- The actors and audience are in the same room, making it more psychologically immediate than film or television
- Theatre is presented for a limited amount of people in a given performance, whereas film and television can reach far more spectators
- Theatre offers a three-dimensional experience, whereas even 3-D recorded media can only mimic such an experience
- Camera angles and close-ups gives the director total control over what the film and television audiences sees; theatre spectators have much more freedom about where they look
- Theatre audiences have a much more active role than spectators of television and film since they are always interacting directly with the performers and can therefore affect the pace of the performance
- Film is more literal than theatre, typically striving to display every detail of setting and action, whereas theatre requires the audience to use its imagination to fill in gaps.

REFERENCES: A-Head: Special Qualities of Theatre