

Theatre, Brief, 12e (Cohen)

Chapter 1 What Is Theatre?

1) The word "theatre" comes from the Greek *theatron*, which means

- A) acting place.
- B) seeing place.
- C) singing place.
- D) listening place.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the different meanings of "theatre."

Bloom's: Remember

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2) What is the relationship between "child's play" and the theatre?

- A) Both are unconcerned with serious issues and focus only on having fun.
- B) Both can be easily categorized into different genres, such as comedy and tragedy.
- C) Both involve acting out different roles.
- D) They are, in fact, nothing alike.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Recall the connection between theatre and playing.

Bloom's: Remember

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3) Which of the following is NOT a possible meaning of "theatre"?

- A) the building where the play is performed
- B) the company of players
- C) a major downtown ticket center
- D) the occupation of acting, directing, designing, building, crewing, managing, producing, and playwriting

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Recall the different meanings of "theatre."

Bloom's: Remember

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4) The minimal requirement for a theatre "building" is

- A) a platform and an orchestra pit.
- B) a curtain and bleachers.
- C) a director and actors.
- D) a place to act and a place to watch.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: Recognize the different aspects of the theatre building.

Bloom's: Understand

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5) One term for a long-standing, collective group of theatre practitioners who have worked together is

- A) corporation.
- B) collection.
- C) troupe.
- D) posse.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Define "theatre company."

Bloom's: Remember

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6) Which theatrical craft fits the following description? Technicians execute in proper sequence, and with carefully rehearsed timing, the light and sound cues, the shifting of scenery, the placement and return of properties, and the assignment, laundering, repair, and change of costumes.

- A) house managing
- B) producing
- C) directing
- D) crewing

Answer: D

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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7) The task of securing all necessary personnel, space, and financing; supervising all production and promotion efforts; fielding all legal matters; and distributing the proceeds derived from receipts falls to the

- A) stage manager.
- B) producer.
- C) director.
- D) manager.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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8) The responsibilities for admitting, seating, and providing for the general comfort of the audience fall to the

- A) house manager.
- B) assistant stage manager.
- C) director.
- D) designer.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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9) The person who controls and develops the artistic product and provides it with a unified vision is the

- A) builder.
- B) director.
- C) producer.
- D) stage manager.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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10) Which of the following theatrical crafts is usually executed away from the theatre building and its associated shops?

- A) running
- B) producing
- C) stage managing
- D) playwriting

Answer: D

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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11) Historically, theatres have developed in close relationship to

- A) eating places.
- B) medicinal baths.
- C) sports activities.
- D) political events.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Recall the connection between theatre and playing.

Bloom's: Remember

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12) While both theatre and sport are public spectacles, theatre differs from sports activities because

- A) sports activities have more players.
- B) theatre has a preordained ending.
- C) theatre has a central protagonist.
- D) only sports involves conflict.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the connection between theatre and playing.

Bloom's: Remember

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13) The distinctive feature of theatre, which separates it from other arts, is that theatre employs

- A) impersonation.
- B) verse.
- C) lots of separate tools.
- D) symbolism.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: Recognize the importance of impersonation to theatre.

Bloom's: Understand

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14) Theatre is an art because it

- A) is not always enjoyable.
- B) is always restricted by form.
- C) combines emotions, intellect, and aesthetics.
- D) provides an escape from life.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Recognize theatre's relationship to art.

Bloom's: Understand

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15) In the ancient Greek theatre, what physical and symbolic element separated the actors from the audience?

- A) The actors spoke in verse.
- B) The actors wore masks.
- C) The actors' names were printed in the program.
- D) The actors danced in special costumes.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recognize the connections between the origins of theatre and theatrical masks.

Bloom's: Understand

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16) An action taken for the attention, entertainment, enlightenment, or involvement of someone else is called

- A) theatre.
- B) drama.
- C) spectacle.
- D) performance.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: Recognize the wide range of behaviors that can be classified as "performance."

Bloom's: Understand

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17) The difference between theatre and performance is that

- A) theatre takes place only within specialized spaces but performance can be anywhere.
- B) theatre makes performance into a formal mode of artistic expression.
- C) theatre is made only by professionals but anyone can create performance.
- D) theatre includes identity behaviors such as gender but performance does not.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recognize the wide range of behaviors that can be classified as "performance."

Bloom's: Understand

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18) Which mode of performance makes the drama "dramatic" as opposed to simply theatrical, enabling the audience to concentrate on the events that are being portrayed and not on their method of demonstration?

- A) representational
- B) presentational
- C) transparent
- D) imperative

Answer: A

Learning Objective: Recall the two modes of performance in theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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19) Which mode of performance acknowledges the audience—as in the case of the nightclub performer who sings, dances, jokes, and responds overtly to applause?

- A) the soliciting mode
- B) the entertaining mode
- C) the presentational mode
- D) the symbolic mode

Answer: C

Learning Objective: Recall the two modes of performance in theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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20) The mode of performance in which the audience watches interactions that are staged as if no audience were present at all is called

- A) the presentational mode.
- B) the representational mode.
- C) the feigned mode.
- D) the treacherous mode.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the two modes of performance in theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

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21) Coleridge's term for the audience participation engendered by way of empathy was

- A) willing suspension of disbelief.
- B) inadvertent involvement.
- C) harmonic conversion.
- D) synergy.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

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22) Theatrical performance differs from other kinds of performance because

- A) the audience is charged an admission fee.
- B) theatre is live, scripted, and rehearsed.
- C) theatre employs dialect and scenery.
- D) theatre uses actors.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

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23) Why did the playwright-director Bertolt Brecht use songs, signs, chalk talks, arguments, and slide projections in his productions?

- A) He wanted to encourage active audience participation through empathy.
- B) He wanted to discourage stage "magic" in order to appeal to the audience directly about social issues.
- C) He wanted to create a more realistic vision of life.
- D) He wanted to bring theatre to a primitive level to reach all kinds of audience ages.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: Recall the two modes of performance in theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

24) How does a theatrical performance differ from a filmed performance?

- A) The theatrical performance has a script whereas filmed performances are most often impromptu.
- B) Regional dialect is more effectively used in film than in theatre.
- C) Symbolism is far more important in theatrical performances than in film.
- D) The theatrical performance is live, with the audience and performers, who are aware of each other and mutually interact in their shared presence.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

25) Which of the following is true of the relationship between the play script and the performance?

- A) The script is a silhouette or outline of the play itself, which fully exists in performance only.
- B) The script is the master plan, containing indications of the gestures, expressions, and movement that the actors need to mount it faithfully.
- C) Most scripts in the past were completed and published prior to the initial production.
- D) Scripts in the past always emerged out of improvisations done prior to performance.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: Recognize the connection between the script and the performance.

Bloom's: Understand

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26) The rigid distinction between the acting space and the audience space came to be formalized when acting became an unsavory, often illegal profession.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: Recall the different meanings of "theatre."

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

27) Theatres built in Elizabethan London to accommodate both plays and bearbaiting provide an example of the shared history of theatre and sport.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recall the connection between theatre and playing.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

28) Cultural behavior such as gender can be viewed as performance.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recognize the wide range of behaviors that can be classified as "performance."

Bloom's: Understand

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

29) The advantages of live performance include its two-way communication between audience and actors, unification of group responses, and live immediacy that makes every show novel and different.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

30) Representation performers directly acknowledge the presence of audience members.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: Recall the two modes of performance in theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

31) Although films are recorded, we perceive them as having a greater immediacy than theatre due to the fact that plays are rehearsed and repeated.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

32) Adult plays and children's games share the ability to help develop means of coping with life's challenges and uncertainties.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recall the connection between theatre and playing.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

33) Theatre performances can elicit the audience's participation by arousing in the audience the feeling of empathy.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

34) Theatre creates a communal effect on the audience.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

35) Published scripts offer a complete, perfect record of a play's productions.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: Recognize the connection between the script and the performance.

Bloom's: Understand

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

36) Define four major categories of Work in the Occupation of Theatre. Use an example when appropriate.

Answer: Answers will vary

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

37) Discuss the implications of this statement: Theatre is not simply a collaborative art that requires the coordination of many crafts; it is also a collaborative experience because it requires an audience.

Answer: Answers will vary

Learning Objective: Recall the different meanings of "theatre."

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

38) Discuss the ways in which theatre, as an event and an audience experience, differs from television and film.

Answer: Answers will vary

Learning Objective: Recall the qualities of live performance.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

39) Discuss the difference between a house manager and a stage manager. List their duties (rehearsal and performances).

Answer: Answers will vary

Learning Objective: Recall the different crafts involved in the work of theatre.

Bloom's: Remember

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

40) Discuss the range of meanings contained in the word "theatre."

Answer: Answers will vary

Learning Objective: Recall the different meanings of "theatre."

Bloom's: Remember

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