

# Welcome.

Again, you may sit wherever.

Warm Up: Think of a play, show or movie which involved a narrator and be ready to explain it.

# Greek theater

- 300 BC to 600 BC
- Theater today originates from Greek theater
- The theater was called an amphitheater and was outside
- All actors wore masks these allowed the audience to recognize the characters
- As the theater was big they would have used large stylized movements and gestures so as to be seen
- Only men were allowed on stage

# Objectives

- To explore the origins of theater
- Use an element of Greek theater to create a performance
- Work effectively with others to develop a performance

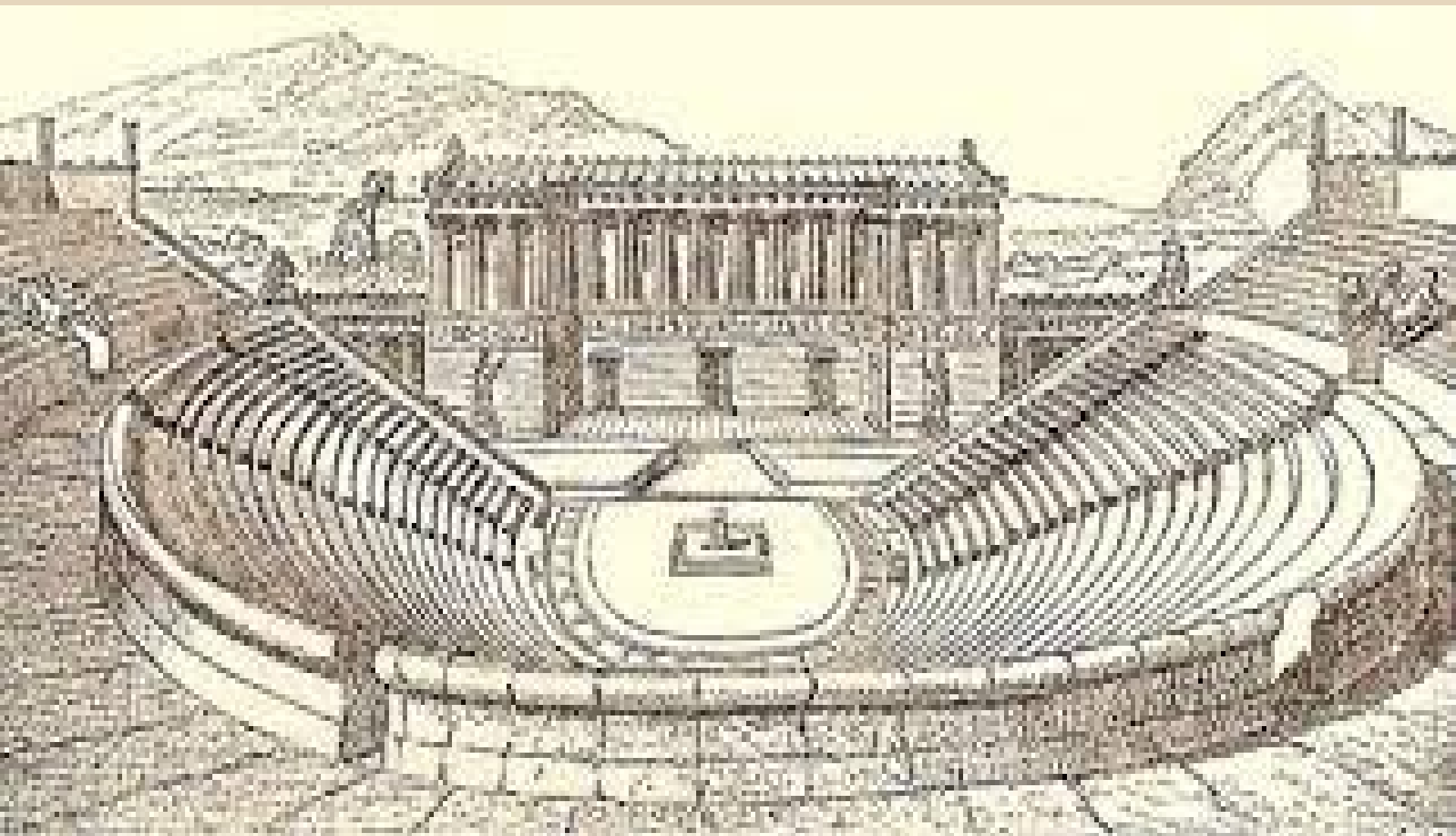
# Origins of words

- Many words associated with theater have roots in Greek.
- theater comes from the word *theatron* meaning "seeing place"
- drama comes from the word *dran* meaning "to do"

# Greek theater

The theater was constructed of three major parts.

- skene – showed the background
- orchestra – where the musicians sat
- koilon – the auditorium where the audience sat











# Today we are exploring Chorus

- The chorus was one of the most important components of the play.
- They narrates and reflects on the action.
- Without them, the audience would have no background information, and the play would be more confusing.
- Originally the chorus had twelve members.
- They moved and spoken as one
- The chorus entered from the two paradoi in three rows of five people.
- They formed little squares between them. The chorus was called by different names for each kind of play, reflecting a different emotion.
- In a tragedy, it was solemn and called "emmelia." In a comedy, it was funny and called "codrax." In a satyric drama, it was scoptic and called "sicinnis."
- They sang, or sometimes said, basic information.
- They were the narrators of the play.

# Example of Chorus?



# How will we be looking at chorus?

- We will use different ways to manipulate and deliver the text to become a chorus and make the performance interesting.

# Ways to deliver text

Echo

Add movement

Repeat

Add Pictures

Change Volume

Speak as

one

Change pitch or Tone

Say a word each

Try all of these out in pairs with the text

Simba says:



Don't mess  
with the  
sharpies on  
your tables,  
please.

# Your assignment...

In groups of 4-6, (I'll number you off) create a very simple play that will last one minute.

Your play will tell the story of each of the group members so that we get to know each other better.

While some of you are acting out your life or break, the others will be the chorus helping fill the gaps and tell the story for the rest of us.

Example...

Two households both alike in dignity

(In fair Verona where we lay our scene),

From ancient grudge break to new mutiny

Where civil blood makes civil hands  
unclean.

From forth the fatal loins of these two foes.

A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life.