



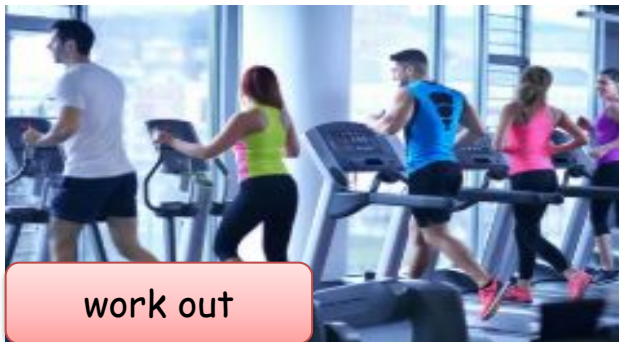
ДБНЖ  
ENGLISH

THEATRE

# How do people spend their free time?



go to the park



work out



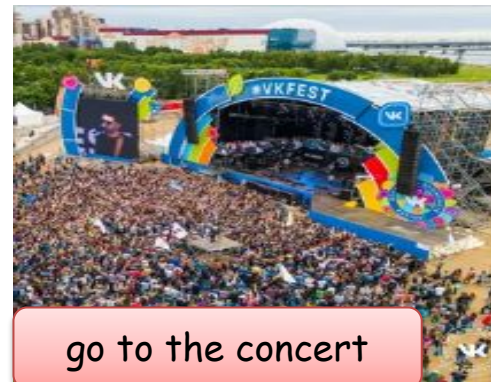
go to the museum



go to the theme park



go camping



go to the concert



The background of the slide is a composite image. The top half shows the interior of a grand theatre with ornate gold-colored walls, red velvet seats, and a stage with red and gold curtains. The bottom half shows the exterior of a classical building with columns and arched windows, illuminated at night. A yellow border frames the top half of the image.

# Theatre

What are we going to talk about?



Do you like to go to the theatre?

What is your favourite play?

What theatres do you know?



# Give definitions to the words:

## Improvise

When actors or musicians improvise, they perform without prepared speech or music, making up the play, music, etc. as they perform it:

- *During certain scenes of the play there isn't any script and the actors just improvise (the dialogue).*

## Platform

the raised part of the floor in a large room, from which you make a speech or give a musical performance:

- *Speaker after speaker **mounted/took the** platform to denounce the policy.*
- *This brilliant young violinist has appeared on **concert** platforms all round the world.*

## Dramatist

a writer of plays, esp. serious ones

## Prehistoric

describing the period before there were written records:

- *prehistoric man/humans/animals*
- *Painting originated **in** prehistoric **times**.*

## Wine

an alcoholic drink that is usually made from grapes, but can also be made from other fruits or flowers. It is made by fermenting the fruit with water and sugar:

- *red/white/dry/sweet/sparkling/table wine*

## Chorus

a group of performers who, as a team, sing or dance in a show:

- *She quickly left the chorus for a starring role.*
- *a chorus **girl***

## Tragedy

a play about death or suffering with a sad end, or this type of play generally:

- *Shakespeare's tragedies include "Hamlet", "King Lear", and "Othello".*
- *In Greek tragedy, the role of the chorus is to express the audience's reactions to what is happening in the play.*



## The History of Entertainment

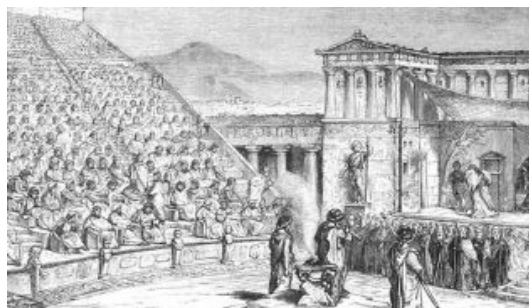


Nearly everyone enjoys entertainment. The beginnings of popular entertainment go back to **prehistoric** times, when dance, music and storytelling were very important. The traditions of entertainment began in ancient Greece about 2,500 years ago with the development of Greek drama.

In those days they organized festivals to celebrate Dionysus [daɪəˈnaɪsəs], the Greek god of **wine** and new life, with song and dance. Later poets began to write stories for a large group of performers (a **chorus** ['kɒrəs] and an actor). Then they introduced another actor which made a dialogue between characters possible. There were two forms of **classical** ['klæsɪkl] Greek drama — **tragedy** and **comedy**.

The Romans continued the traditions of Greece and developed other kinds of entertainment as well. The beginnings of the circus are connected with **gladiators** ['glædɪətəz] fighting in public **arenas** [əˈrɪ:nəz].

In the Middle Ages the church considered entertainment and drama wrong, but by and by drama **reappeared** with religious and **moral plays**.



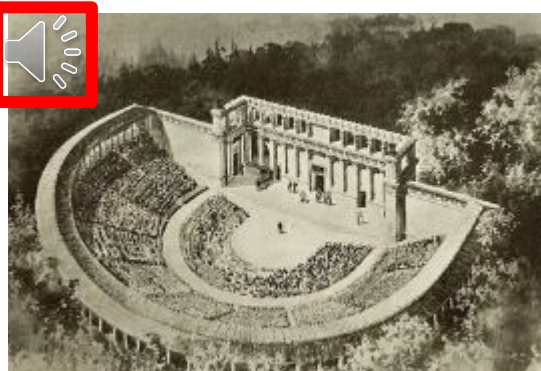




In the time of Renaissance the theatre became less religious and there was a new interest in Greek and Roman drama. Common people preferred comedies which were performed by a travelling group of actors. At first, the actors had no text, only an idea of what was going to happen and had to **improvise** ['ɪmprəvaɪz]. They usually performed on high **platforms** in public places. The actors offered entertainment which included plays, songs and dances.

The Golden Age of Theatre began when the first special theatres were built. The first of such theatres was opened in London in 1652. Soon there appeared a few others including the famous **Globe Theatre**. Among the writers who worked for these theatres was William Shakespeare, one of the greatest **dramatists** in any language. Shakespeare gave his audience great literature but at the same time he gave them popular entertainment.

Nowadays people entertain themselves by listening to music, watching TV programmes, films and videos, going to concerts and circus shows but the theatre is still among our favourite entertainments.





# Which of these ideas are not in it.

1. The history of entertainment is very old.
2. In ancient times people had special places for singing, dancing and storytelling.
3. Greek drama was the first public entertainment in Europe.
4. We know two kinds of Greek drama.
5. Greek tragedies always ended in the most important character dying.
6. Romans introduced new forms of entertainment.
7. In the Middle Ages the church didn't let the theatre develop freely,
8. The first performances took place in the streets.
9. The Renaissance was the time when the theatre developed fast and became very important.

# Say the same in one word.

The Renaissance

prehistoric

ancient

audience

a character

a tragedy

a circus

a chorus

a drama

a dramatist

a dialogue

entertainment

1. Belonging to the time before people began to write down their history. prehistoric

2. Belonging to the time of very long ago. ancient

3. A play for acting. a drama

4. A group of people singing together. a chorus

5. Talk between two people, often in films or plays. a dialogue

6. A person in a play, film or story. a character

7. A drama about sad events with a sad end. a tragedy

8. A show with performances by acrobats, clowns and animals, often travelling from a circus

9. The period between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries in Europe. The Renaissance

10. A writer working for the theatre. a dramatist

11. People watching or listening to a performance. audience

12. A theatre or a film show, a concert, etc. entertainment



# Answer the questions.

1. Were music, dancing and storytelling in prehistoric times forms of entertainment or were they forms of magic?

2. In what country did the history of drama begin? When did it happen?

3. Whom did they call an "actor" in ancient Greece?

4. What are the two forms of classical Greek drama?

5. What popular entertainment of nowadays began in ancient

6. Why weren't the Middle Ages the best time for the develop

7. What did Renaissance people rediscover?

8. What were theatrical performances like before there appe

9. How do you understand the meaning of "Golden Age"?

What time do we consider to be the Golden Age of Theat

Nearly everyone enjoys entertainment. The beginnings of popular entertainment go

The traditions of entertainment began in ancient Greece. Later poets began to write stories for a t of a large group of performers (actors and

There were two forms of classical ['klæsɪkl] Greek drama: tragedy and comedy.

The beginnings of the circus are connected with

In the Middle Ages the church considered

In the time of Renaissance the theatre

At first, the actors had no text, only an idea of what was going to happen and had to improvise ['ɪmprəvaɪz]. They usually performed on high platforms in public places.

The Golden Age of Theatre began when the first special theatres were built.

Among the writers who worked for these theatres was William Shakespeare, one of the greatest dramatists in any language.

# What do these words mean?



An arena

A high platform for performers

A place with seats for the audience around it

An ancient stadium



# What do these words mean?



A chorus

A large group of people who sing together

A large group of actors who act together

A song for a large group of singers

# Complete the text with theatre words.



## Theatre

A **theatre** is a place where they perform **plays** and the **audience** watches them.

The earliest **theatres** we know about appeared in Greece where theatre lovers enjoyed **drama** in the form of **tragedies** and **comedies**. Greek **theatres** looked like big stadiums open to the sky but they were so good that everyone could see and hear the **performers** very well. Roman **theatres** looked very much like Greek **theatres**. The Romans built **theatres** in nearly every large town in the country. We still remember some of the Greek and Roman **dramas** and watch them in modern **theatres**.



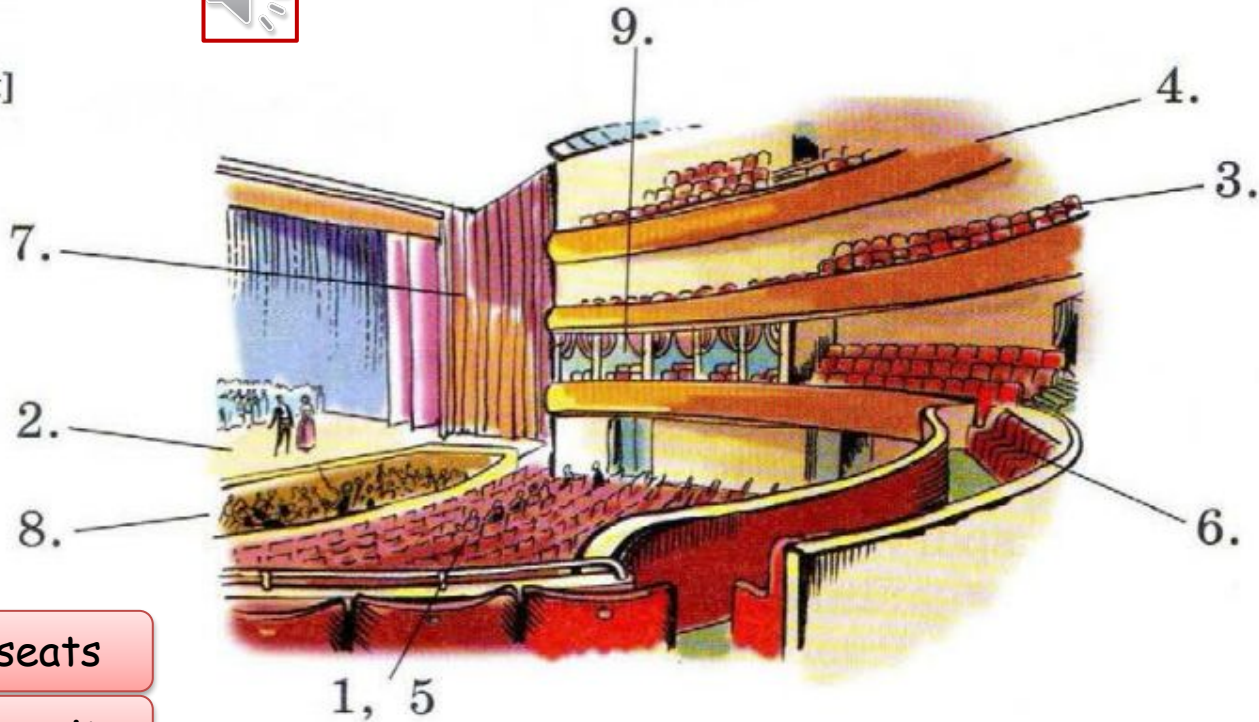
# Listen and match.

- 1) stalls [stɔ:lz]
- 2) stage [steɪdʒ]
- 3) balcony ['bælkəni]
- 4) gallery ['gæləri]
- 5) rows [rəʊz] of seats
- 6) circle ['sɜ:kl]
- 7) curtain(s) ['kɜ:tnz]
- 8) orchestra pit ['ɔ:kɪstrə,pɪt]
- 9) box [bɒks]



- Box
- Gallery
- Balcony
- Curtains
- Stage
- Stalls
- Circle

- Rows of seats
- Orchestra pit



# Listen and match the definition

the place in a cinema or theatre where tickets are sold:

a man who shows people where they should sit, especially at a formal event such as a wedding or at a theatre or cinema

a thin book or piece of paper giving information about a play or musical or sports event, usually bought at the theatre or place where the event happens:

a room in a public building such as a restaurant, theatre, etc. where coats, bags, and other personal things can be left while their owners are in the building

small binoculars that can be used in large theatres by people sitting far from the stage, so that they can see the performers more clearly

a restaurant in a station, where food and drinks can be bought and eaten

a large open area just inside the entrance of a public building such as a theatre or a hotel, where people can wait and meet each other:

a small piece of paper or card given to someone, usually to show that they have paid for an event, journey, or activity:

1) cloakroom  
['kləʊkrʊm]

2) foyer  
['fɔɪər]

3) box office  
['bɒks ˌɒfɪs]

4) buffet  
['bʊfeɪ]

5) programme  
['prəʊgræm]

6) opera glasses  
['ɒprə ˌglɑːsɪz]

7) usher  
['ʌʃə]

8) ticket  
['tɪkɪt]

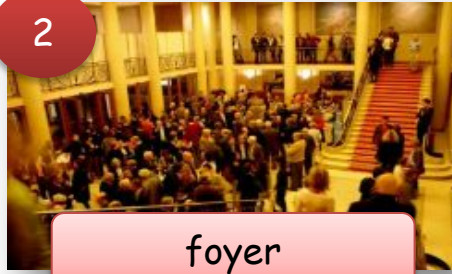
# What are these?

1



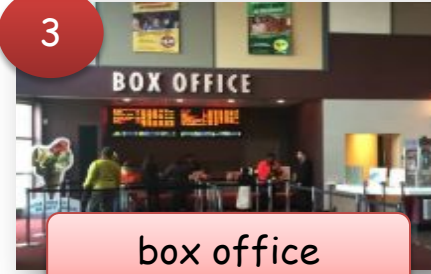
cloakroom

2



foyer

3



box office

4



buffet

5



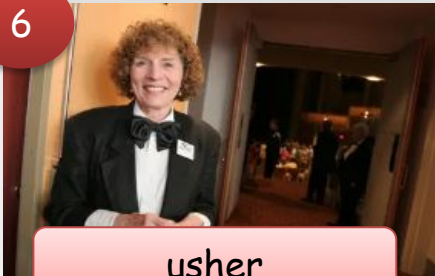
ticket

8



ticket

6



usher

7



opera glasses



A. The Way to the New Globe Theatre

B. Making Shakespear's Plays Easier

C. Born to be Famous

D. The Longest Play by Shakespeare

E. The Places Connected with the Poet

F. The Secret of the True Author

4

3

extra

2

1

5

Listen and match the Texts (1-5) with their titles (a-f). There is one title you don't have to use.



1) When William Shakespeare returned to Stratford-upon-Avon, he had enough money to buy a good big house for his family. They called it "New Place". Sadly you can't go and visit it today. In its place there is a beautiful gallery now. Another place where Shakespeare lived in Stratford is the house where the poet was born. There is a museum in it now. People call it the 'Birthplace'. You can also see the farm house where Shakespeare's wife Ann Hathaway had lived before they got married, but it is not in Stratford.

2) Some of Shakespeare's plays are very long. They may take three hours or longer. Famous "Hamlet" is much longer than the others. At the end of the play nearly all the characters die. But Horatio, Hamlet's friend, survives, to tell Hamlet's story to people.

3) Shakespeare's plays are rather difficult to read and understand. That's why a number of people tried to make them more readable. For example, there is a company which makes the plays short. They perform each of the plays in an hour. Two centuries ago Charles and Mary Lamb, who were brother and sister, wrote 20 plays by William Shakespeare in prose to turn them into easy stories for young readers.

4) In the 16th century there was only one bridge over the River Thames. To get to the new Globe Theatre, Londoners got into boats and crossed the river. They knew that there was a new play to see when they saw a flag flying over the theatre.

5) We know it for a fact that Shakespeare had never been a university student. At the same time his works show that he knew a lot, more than some people with a very good education. That is one of the reasons why quite a number of people believe that somebody else wrote under the name of William Shakespeare. One theory says that it could be Queen Elizabeth I herself.



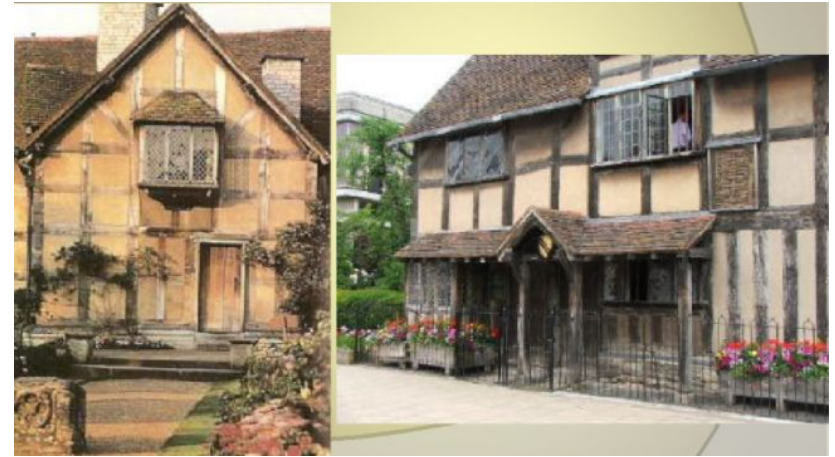
## Listen again and answer the questions:



1. How many houses did Shakespeare have?
2. Where are they?
3. What are their names?



Here W. Shakespeare spent his last years of his life.  
The house was destroyed. There is a garden on its place.



This is the house where Shakespeare was born.



## Listen again and answer the questions:

1. Is it difficult to understand what Shakespeare wrote?
2. Who rewrote his plays?
3. How many plays were rewritten in prose?



at sundrie times I did of for such to name William Shakespeare  
and Ray are both of one temple and indeed almost of one  
towne both are right famous in their qualities being it long  
not of so so famous and wisdom to rest unto the place  
where Ray are wont to delight the publique earre their trust  
and sure more it not to be molested in their way of life  
whereby Ray maintaines their solace and their wisdome and  
familiar (being both married and of good reputation) as well as  
the widowed and oppressed of some of their dead fellows. Y<sup>e</sup>  
So. most bounden at com  
H S

William Shakespeare  
Sonnet 18



Shall I compare thee to a summer's day  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate  
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
And summer's lease hath all too short a date  
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,  
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd  
And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
By chance, or nature's changing course untrimm'd  
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,  
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st  
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,  
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st  
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,  
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.



Listen again and answer the questions:



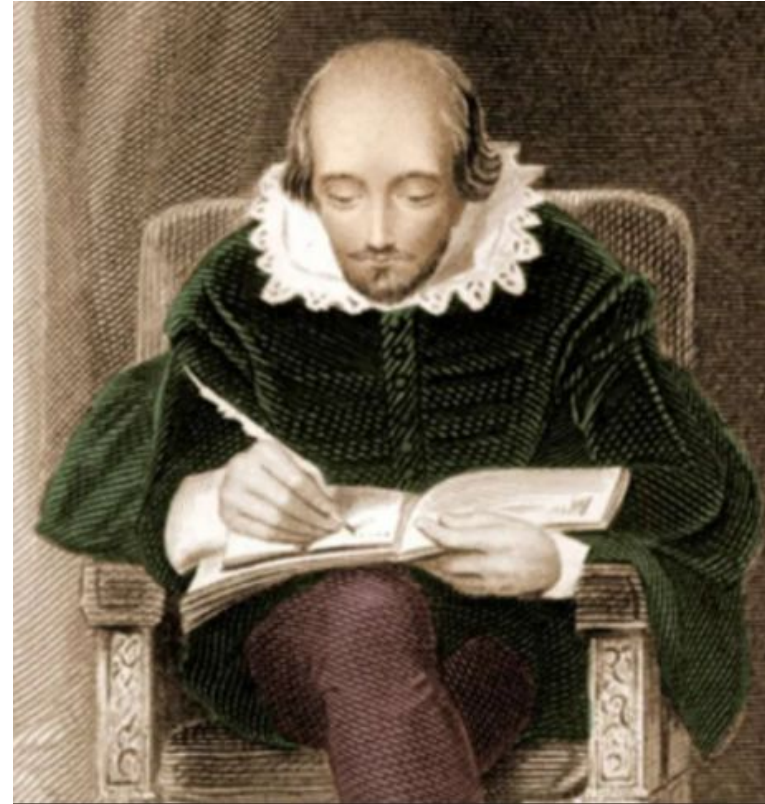
1. How did Londoners get to the new Globe Theatre?
2. How did they know that there was a new play?



## Listen again and answer the questions:



1. What education did Shakespeare have?
2. In what do people believe?



Read the text and complete it with the word combinations (a-h).  
Give the text a name.





## ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.



1. How was the English theatre different from the modern theatre?



They were round building open to the sky in the middle. The actors (men and boys only) performed on the stage where there was no scenery. Most of the audience stood to watch a play for a penny.

2. Why did the actors always perform in the afternoon in the 16<sup>th</sup> century?



There were no lights or lamps and they showed their plays in the afternoon.

3. How long did it take members of Shakespeare's company to build The Globe?

GET  
ANSWERS



They built the theatre in just 28 days and called it The Globe.

4. Where and when did they build it?

GET  
ANSWERS



They built the theatre in the south bank of the Thames in 1598.

5. What happened to the Globe Theatre in 1613?

GET  
ANSWERS



In 1613 during a performance The Globe Theatre caught fire, which destroyed it.

Read the names of plays and say which of them are by William Shakespeare.

1. W. Shakespeare

Twelfth night

All's well that ends well

King Lear

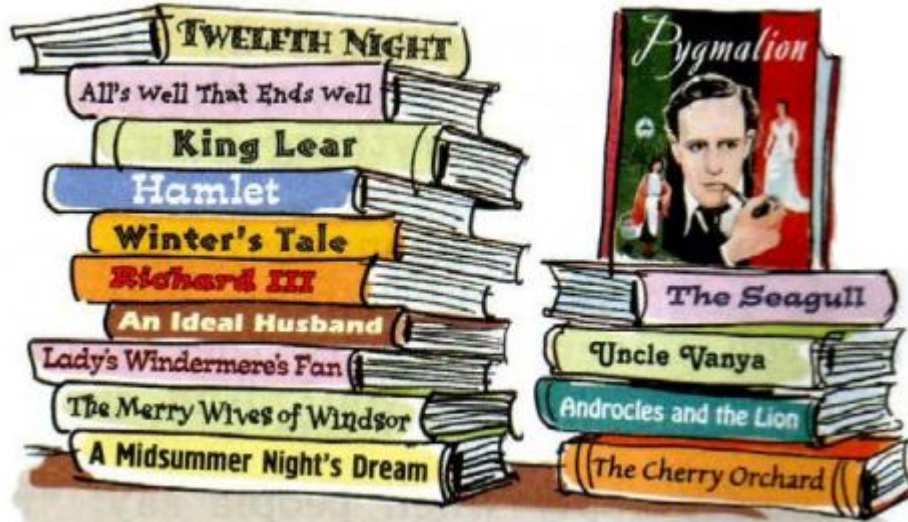
Hamlet

The winter's tale

Richard III

The Merry Wives of Windsor

A midsummer night's dream



2. Bernard Show

Androcles and the lion

3. Oscar Wilde

An ideal husband

Lady Windermere's fan

Pygmalion

4. A. Chekhov

The seagull

Uncle Vanya

The cherry orchard