

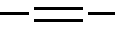




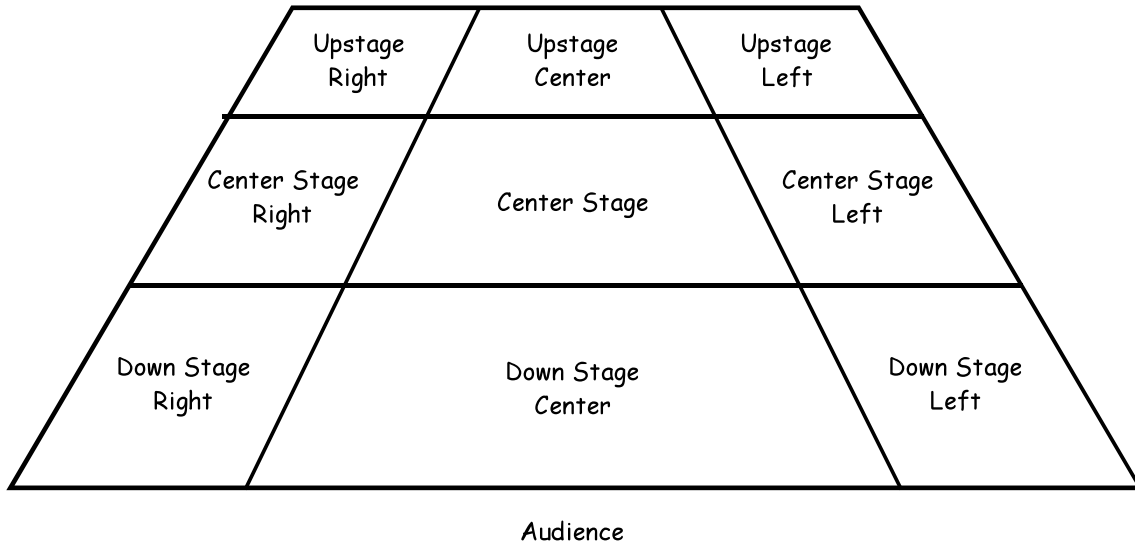


Blocking Abbreviations and Symbols.

<i>Area / Object Identification</i>	<i>Movement</i>	<i>Line Readings</i>
C, CS: Center, Center Stage	Ent: Enter	/: slight pause
D, DS: Down, Downstage	Ent UR: Enter Up Right	//: longer pause
DC: Down Center	Ex: Exit	//5: pause for about 5 seconds
DLC: Down Left Center	Ex DL: Exit Down Left	--- : break speech, interrupt
DL: Downstage Left	Kn: Kneel	↗: build (crescendo)
DR: Downstage Right	Lie: Lie Down	↘: decrease (diminuendo)
L, LS: Left, Left Stage	R: Rise	_____: stress underline (emphasize word, phrase, sentence)
LC: Left Center	S: sit	B: take breath here
R, RS: Right, Right Stage	X: Cross	T: top (building on top of previous line)
RC: Right Center	XDR: Cross Down Right	T++: increase tempo (faster)
U, US: Up, Upstage	XL3: Cross to the Left 3 steps	T--: decrease tempo (slower)
UC: Up Center	XUL: Cross Up Left	U: undercut (lowering below previous line)
UL: Upstage Left	Ent UC X DR, Kn: Enter Up Center, Cross to Down Right, then Kneel	
UR: Upstage Right	^: Rising	
URC: Up Right Center	V: sitting down	
 : table	 : Reclining	
 : window	 : Actor Standing	
  : door	 : seated	

Why do we use the terms “upstage” and “downstage”? In the nineteenth century and earlier, theaters had raked (sloped) stages. That means that upstage was actually higher than downstage, and the stage slanted down as it got closer to the audience. This made it easier for the audience to see everyone on stage.



(Sources: *The Director's Vision*, by Louis E. Catron, Mayfield Publishing Company, ISBN 0-87484-760-5); and *On Stage Theater Games and Activities for Kids*, by Lisa Bany-Winters, Chicago Review Press, ISBN1-55652-324-6).

—