

# Key words

Chorus	The <b>ensemble</b> . Chorus speak in Unison or in Canon or as individuals to tell the story and explain parts of the play to the audience.
Comedy	A funny play with farcical and over the top character
Tragedy	A sad play where there is often a death and moral lessons to be learned.
Catharsis	After watching a performance you feel emotionally cleansed- it's cathartic to have a good cry!
<b>Ensemble</b>	Working as a group to perform.
Amphitheatre	The stage is at the base and the audience are seated in a funnel shape which helps to trap the noise.

**Masks** were used for **chorus** at first and then eventually characters acting out parts would start to tell the story too. The characters would wear masks too. The holes for the mouth were large so the lines could still be delivered clearly.



There are two types of story told in Greek Theatre. **Comedy and Tragedy.**

The chorus would wear masks to show emotions that should be felt about the story being told. These masks are where we get our sign for Drama from:



**Chorus      Narrator      Ensemble**

In Ancient Greece, the chorus could be up to 50 people strong, this slowly changed to around 12 people. The chorus created setting, scenery, and atmosphere as the story is told. The chorus would work together in an 'ensemble.' Individuals would step forward and act out key scenes and the chorus would react with emotions. These individuals became the actors.



## Year 8 | Greek Theatre

Greek Theatre is the earliest form of theatre recorded in Europe in **600 BC**. It began as a religious ceremony where a priest would give a sermon and a chorus of people would sing behind him.

It was held in an **amphitheatre**:



Visit the Minack Theatre in Cornwall for a taste of an Amphitheatre.

