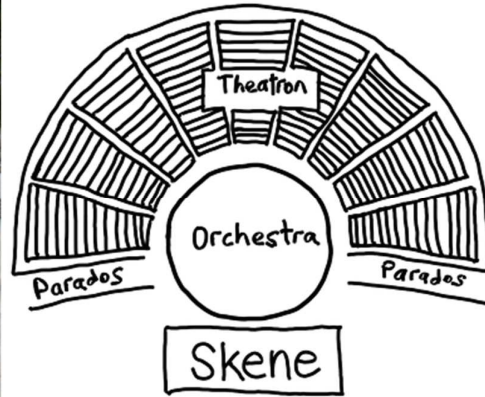


Greek Theatre – HT3

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**:



The stage is at the base and the audience are seated in a funnel shape which helps to trap the noise in the space so the sermon could be heard. Eventually the sermon changed into a storytelling and the priest turned into a narrator. The stories would have morals and messages for the audience.

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

Some of 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:



Characters Names in Antigone:

Name	Pronunciation	Role
Antigone	Anti-gone-ee	Protagonist
Creon	Cree-on	Antigone's Uncle (now king)
Eteocles	Et-ee-oh-clees	Antigone's Brother (was king)
Polynices	Poly-nice-ees	Antigone's Brother (not buried)
Ismene	Is-men-ee	Antigone's sister
Haemon	Hay-mon	Creon's Son
Tiresias	Ti-ress-i-as	A blind Prophet
Eurydice	You-rid-i-see	Creon's Wife

How Modern Theatre Still Uses Greek Traditions: We still use the narrator from Greek Theatre in lots of types of theatre, especially theatre with a message, it helps the audience to distance themselves from the action and reflect.

Chorus is used in more creative ways with dance, physical theatre and still images to help include more detail and atmosphere in the storytelling

Structure of Greek Tragedy

Prologue	Start of the performance
Parados	Entrance of the characters
Episode	The scene of the performance
Stasimon	The chorus repeat the content of the scene in rhyme
Exodus	The finish and exit