

ACTING TERMINOLOGY

- = **ad lib**: To incorporate stage business or conversation.
- = **back**, or **backstage**: The area of the stage that is not visible to the audience.
- = **building a scene**: Using dramatic devices such as *business*, *tempo*, *volume*, and *emphasis* to bring a scene to a climax.
- = **center**: To attract the view of the audience.
- = **cue**: The last words, action, or technical effect that immediately precedes any line or business; a stage signal.
- = **curtain**: The curtain or drape that shuts off the stage from the audience; when written in all-capital letters in a script, it indicates that the curtain is to be closed.
- = **cut**: To stop action or to end.
- = **cut line**: To break into the speech of another character.
- = **cut movement**: To leave the stage.
- = **fade**: To emphasize a word or line with extra force.
- = **left and right**: Terms used to refer to the stage from the actor's point of view, instead of the audience.
- = **off the stage**: Off the visible stage.
- = **on the stage**: On the visible stage.
- = **position**: The position of the actors at the opening of an act or scene.