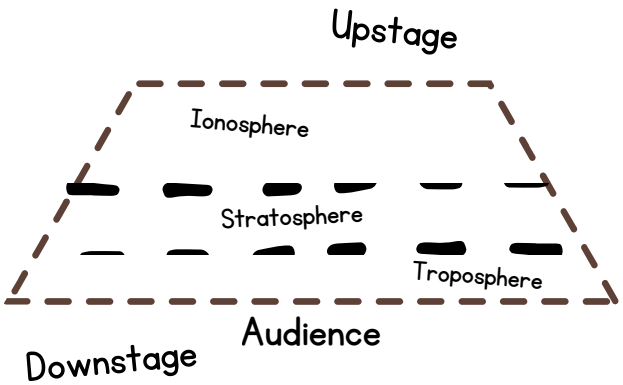
ATMOSPHERE

Creative Exercise Worksheet

Student Name:



The Earth is surrounded by a layer of gases called the atmosphere. While it appears to be one giant sky, it is actually divided into five distinct layers, each with its own unique properties, pressure, and movement qualities.

The Troposphere (0-10 miles above Earth)
This is the densest layer where we live and where all weather happens. It contains approximately 75-80% of the atmosphere's total mass and nearly all its water vapor.

- Movement Qualities:
  - Clouds: Smooth, floating, and light.
  - Wind: Flowing, swirling, and free.
  - Pressure: Pushing, pressing, and strong (Heavy/Low Movements).

The Stratosphere (10-50 miles above Earth)
The air here is very stable, which is why commercial airplanes fly in this layer to avoid the "bumpy" weather of the Troposphere.

- The Ozone Layer: Located within the Stratosphere, this acts as a filter that absorbs and prevents the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays from reaching the Earth.
- Movement Qualities: Smooth, slow, and light. Floating, turning, melting, and rolling.

The Mesosphere (31-53 miles above Earth)
This is the coldest layer of the atmosphere. It is where most meteors burn up upon entry, appearing as "shooting stars."

- Movement Qualities: Sharp, icy, and jagged.

Thermosphere & Ionosphere (53-372 miles above Earth)
The Ionosphere is a dynamic region within the Thermosphere where high-energy solar radiation creates electrified atoms (ions). This layer is famous for bouncing radio signals back to Earth and for the shimmering Northern Lights.

- Movement Qualities:
  - Ions: Shaking, poking, and flicking through space.
  - Pressure: So light it hardly feels like you are touching the floor (High/Light Movements).

The Exosphere (372-6,200 miles above Earth)
The final frontier of our atmosphere. The air is extremely thin here as it fades into the vacuum of space.

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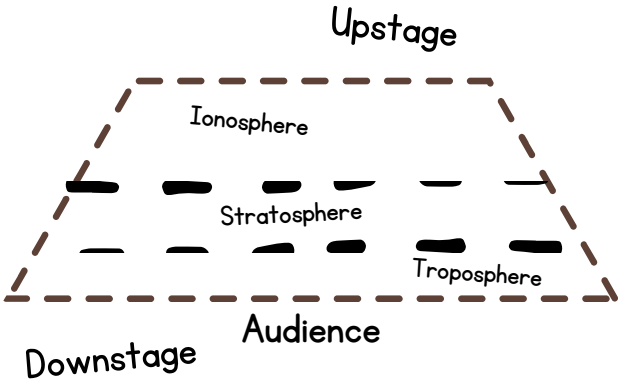
VOCABULARY

- Upstage: Refers to the back of the stage (away from the audience).
- Downstage: Refers to the front of the stage (closer to the audience).
- Heavy Movements: Dance actions performed with strong weight, firm tension, and a sense of gravity; used to represent the high air pressure and high density of the
- Light Movements: Movements performed with a buoyant, delicate, or airy quality, using minimal force; used to represent the low pressure and "thin" air of the Exosphere.
- Low Movements: Actions performed at a "low level," meaning close to or on the floor (crawling, crouching); represent the atmospheric layers closest to Earth's surface.
- High Movements: Actions performed at a "high level," reaching toward the ceiling or jumping; represents the uppermost reaches of the atmosphere.
- Troposphere: The densest layer, where we live.
- Stratosphere: Contains the ozone layer; stable air.
- Mesosphere: The coldest layer; protects Earth from meteors.
- Thermosphere: The hottest layer; contains the ionosphere.
- Exosphere: The thin outer edge of the atmosphere.
- Air Pressure: The weight of the atmosphere pressing down on Earth.



ASSIGNMENT

Mapping the Stage

Imagine the Downstage area (closest to the audience) is the Troposphere. What movement quality should you use there?

_____

Imagine the Upstage area (back of the stage) is the Ionosphere. What movement quality should you use there? _____

Defining the Layers: Match the layer to its primary characteristic:

Troposphere: _____

Stratosphere: _____

Mesosphere: _____

Thermosphere: _____

Exosphere: _____