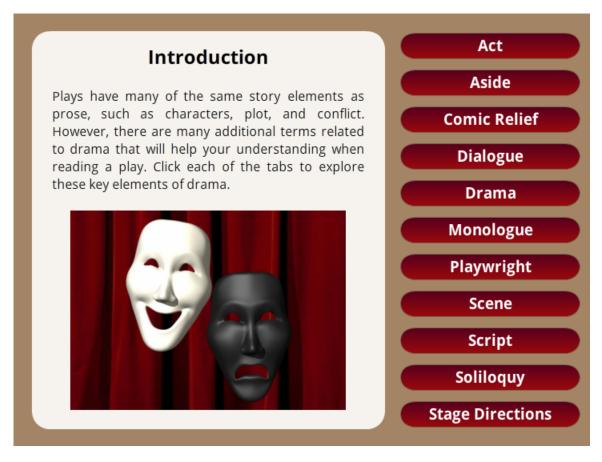
Introduction



Plays have many of the same story elements as prose, such as characters, plot, and conflict. However, there are many additional terms related to drama that will help your understanding when reading a play. Click each of the tabs to explore these key elements of drama.



Act



An act is a major division of a play.



Aside



An aside is a short speech that is spoken to the audience or another character but not heard by other characters on the stage.



Comic Relief



Comic relief is a humorous scene or character that serves to break the emotional tension during a serious or tragic drama.



Dialogue



Dialogue is lines spoken between two or more characters.



Drama



A drama is a story designed to be performed on a stage by actors.



Monologue



A monologue is an extended speech made by a single character to one or more other characters.



Playwright



A playwright is the author of a play.



Scene



A scene is a section of a play's act.



Script



A script is the text of a play.



Soliloquy



A soliloquy is an extended, private speech that reveals a character's true feelings and thoughts.



Stage Directions



Stage directions are instructions in the script of a play indicating stage actions, delivery of lines by performers, and production requirements such as costumes, lighting, or props.

