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gaffer -- slang term for any foreman of a stage crew, usually the electrician

gag -- a line delivered to get a laugh

gang -- to group together lighting units for master control

gel frame -- the metal frame that holds the color filter

gels -- color medium made of dyed animal material. It is used to change the color in any stage lighting instrument.

general manager -- oversees all non-artistic parts of the production. Under the producer's guidance, the general manager draws up the budgets and works directly with agents and lawyers in drawing up contracts for actors and the leasing of the theater. He also handles all negotiations with the various theatrical unions.

general press agent -- individual responsible for the promotion of the production: press releases, ad placement, poster distribution, radio and TV spots, interviews, etc. This individual works very closely with the producer and is usually held responsible for the longevity of a production.

genre -- group or category of compositions that have common characteristics

gesture -- the use of hand, body and facial movement to make the actor's dialogue more meaningful or to make a point without dialogue

give stage -- director's request that an actor take a weak position so another actor can have focus

given circumstances -- according to Stanislavsky, those aspects of character that are beyond the character's or actor's control: age, sex, state of health, and so on

glare -- the reflection of light from the floor of the stage; caused by lighting instruments pointed downstage over a floor that has been painted a shiny color

go -- the magic word; the universal way to tell someone to do their thing

gobo -- metal cutout that creates a simple pattern when placed on the aperture of an ellipsoidal reflector spotlight

go up -- to forget one's lines while on stage

grand drape -- the main curtain; aka, the main rag

grease paint -- a cosmetic used for stage makeup

greenroom -- traditional name of the room in which actors gather to wait for entrances. Although many are not painted green today, it is thought that the equivalent room in London's Drury Lane Theater was green -- hence the name.

grid -- framework of steel affixed to the stage ceiling, used to support rigging necessary for flying scenery

grip -- a stagehand

gripping -- moving scenery by picking it up manually

grommets -- small metal rings driven into a drop; designed to hold tie lines

gross -- the money taken in for a performance before paying bills, salaries, taxes, etc.

ground cloth -- a canvas covering the floor of a stage used as a padding for the acting area usually painted to represent grass, stones, etc.

ground plan -- a drawing of the stage setting including the major furniture props as seen from above

ground row -- a low, horizontal piece of scenery designed to hide lighting instruments on the floor