

VOCABULARY

THEATRICAL TERMS

DANCE MUSIC: Music written specifically to accompany a dance sequence in a musical

11 O' CLOCK NUMBER: A show-stopping, emotional number that comes very near the end of a musical (which used to be right around 11 o' clock). Famous ones include "Rose's Turn" from "Gypsy" and "Memory" from "Cats"

LYRICS: All the words in a musical that have been put to music

OVERTURE: A mixture of songs from a musical which is played before the curtain goes up to give the audience a feel for the story to come

REPRISE: In a musical, when a song is performed again

BOOK: All the non-sung words in a musical

HARMONY: The combination of simultaneous musical notes in a chord structure of music

BACKBEAT: A steady pronounced rhythm stressing the second and fourth beats of a four-beat measure

VOCABULARY FROM BYE BYE BIRDIE:

OVALTINE: A famous label of chocolate milk powder that was particularly well-known in the 1950s and 60s

ORGY: A group overindulgence in any kind of pleasure, especially a sexual one

GO STEADY: To go out with someone in an ongoing, serious manner

AMERICANA: Anything concerning distinctly American culture

CONSCRIPTION CENTER: Government office where those drafted had to report

SHRINERS: A secret fraternal society called the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Members of this society are called Shriners. They are committed to community services projects and supporting the Shriners Hospital for Children.

SOFT SHOE: A laidback dance routine performed in soft shoes, like jazz shoes

TO DIG: 1950s slang meaning to really be into something or to like something a lot

TO PIN: To give a girl your high school pin to symbolize that you are now going steady

