



**Dionysus:** in *Greek Mythology*, the God of vegetation and wine; identified with the Roman God Bacchus

**Sophocles:** Greek tragic dramatist; lived 496? – 406 B.C.

**Plato:** Greek philosopher; lived 437 - 347 B.C.

**orchestra:** in ancient Greek theaters, the semicircular space in front of the stage, used by the chorus

**mask:** a covering for the face or part of the face, to conceal or disguise the identity

**mythology:** a telling of tales or legends

**chorus:** in Greek drama, a company of performers who's singing, dancing, and narration provided explanation and elaboration of the main action

**Athens:** a city in Greece, in ancient times the center of Greek culture and now the capital of the country

**Euripides:** a Greek tragic dramatist; 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

**tragedies:** a serious play having a disastrous or unhappy ending brought about by the characters or central character impelled, in ancient drama, by fate or, more recently, by moral weakness, psychological maladjustment, or social pressures

**Thespis:** a Greek poet; 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.; traditionally the originator of Greek Tragedy

**Olympic Games:** in ancient Greece, a festival consisting of various contests in athletics, poetry, and music, held every four years at Olympia, in honor of Zeus: also called Olympian Games

**comedies:** originally, any play or other literary composition with a nontragic ending

**festivals:** a celebration, entertainment, or series of performances of a certain kind, often held periodically