In Others' Words

In is down, down is front. Out is up, up is back. And, of course, right is left, and left is right. A "drop" shouldn't and a "block and fall" does neither. A "prop" doesn't and a "cove" has no water. "Tripping" is o.k. A "running crew" rarely gets anywhere. A "purchase line" will buy you nothing. A "trap" will not catch anything. A "gridiron" has nothing to do with football. Strike is work— in fact, a lot of work. And a green room, thank God, usually isn't. Now that you are fully versed in theatrical terms, break a leg.

SOLUTION OF ASSIGNMENT: INVENT YOUR OWN THEATRE JARGON 1

Instructions

Theatre has a very large vocabulary, including the development and use of a lot of slang, created over thousands of years of theatre history. If you would like to see many more theatrical words and phrases turn to An Actor's Vocabulary in the back of this book.

Now that you have learned many of the basic Stage Vocabulary terms, why don't you, for the fun of it, make up some theatre jargon of your own. When assigned in your logbook (on the lines below) invent a few theatre slang terms of your own and define them.

¹ Thanks to National Textbook Company's *Theatre*, Art in Action for this idea.