



Ira Aldridge

Symbol Book



Ira Aldridge - Symbol

Published by Widgit Software

© Widgit Software 2021

This book is available electronically from

www.widgit.com/resources

Written and published by:

Widgit Software

Tel: 01926 333680

Email: info@widgit.com

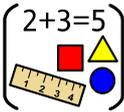
Web: www.widgit.com

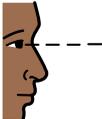
All of the materials are copyright. Files and documents printed from those files may be used within the purchasing organisation. They may not be passed to other centres.



 was  born  in  New York  in 1807.

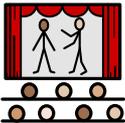
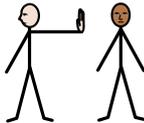
At  age **13**  Ira  attended the  African Free School.

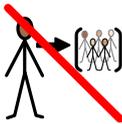
He  learnt  English,  maths,  geography and  astronomy.

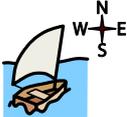
He  saw  plays  including  productions of  Shakespeare.



 **1st**  acted with  the African  Company in  New York.

 The company was  attacked by  racists and  thugs.

 In  America  black actors  were  discriminated against.

1824  Ira  sailed  to England for  better prospects.



Britain



had

abolished

the



slave



trade

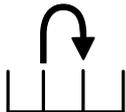
in

1807

1807.



Britain



next



wanted to



outlaw



slaves



in



its colonies.



Ira



appeared



in



London

as



'Othello'

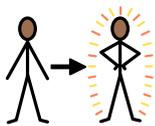
in

1825

1825.



Ira



became



very

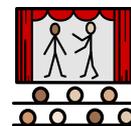


famous

in



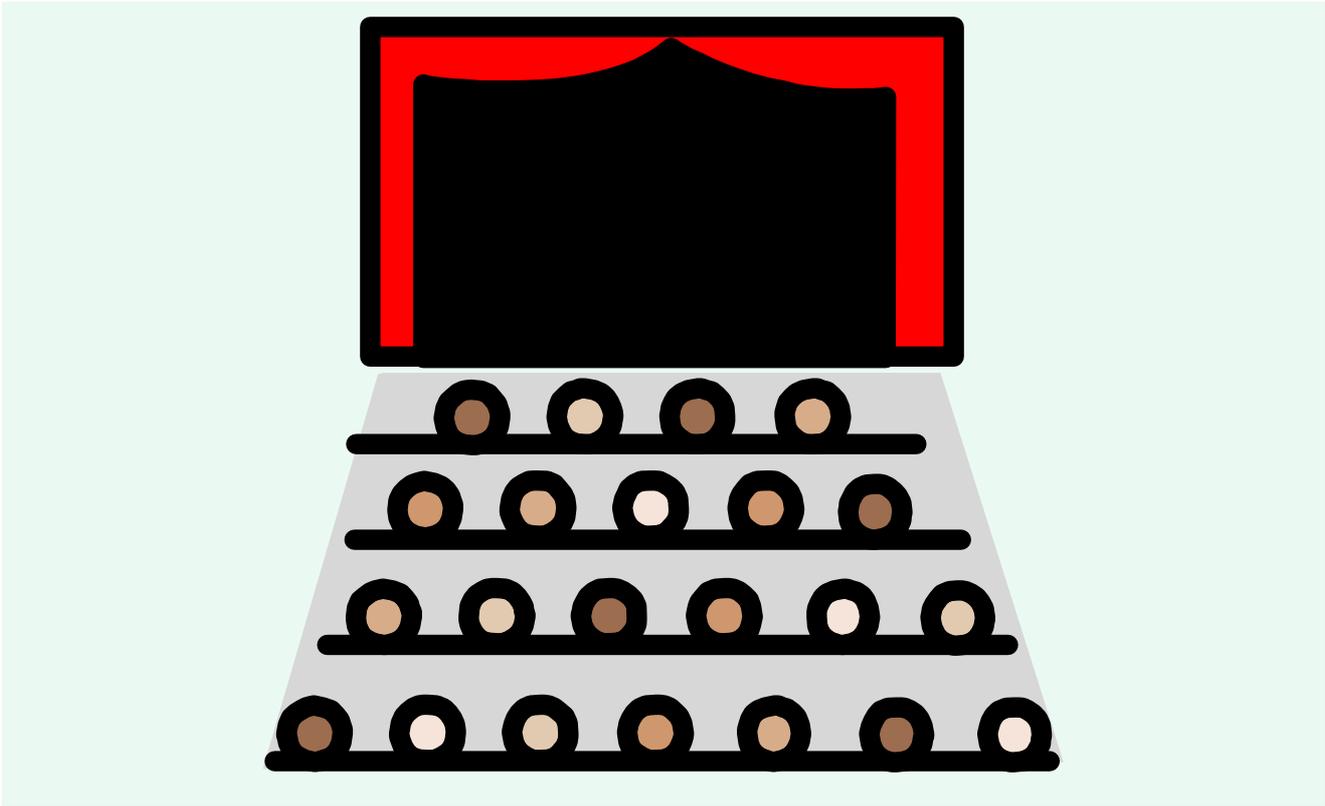
Europe

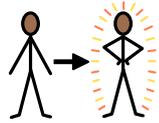
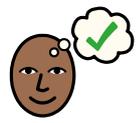


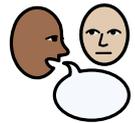
playing



Othello.



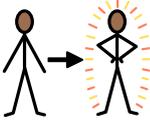
 became  known  as the  'African Roscius'.

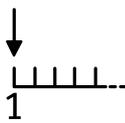
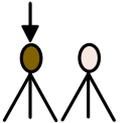
 told  people  he  was  as an  African  prince.

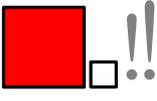
 acted  in  King Lear,  Othello  and  Macbeth.

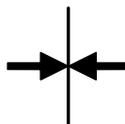
 was  very  popular  with his  audiences.

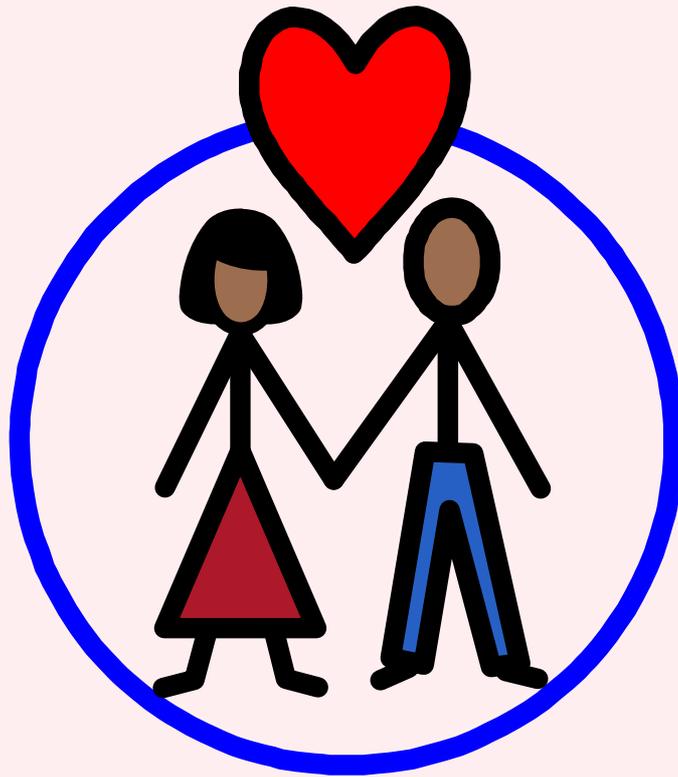


     **1828**
Ira became manager of Coventry Theatre in 1828.

    
He was the first black person to manage a theatre.

   
Ira's performances were hugely popular.

     
On closing night he would speak out against slavery.



In 1825 Ira married Margaret Gill.

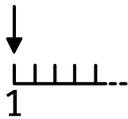
They were married for 40 years until her death.

Then Ira married Amanda von Brandt.

Ira and Amanda had four children.



Ira



first



toured



Europe

in

1852

1852.



He



performed



in Germany,



Hungary,



Serbia

and



Russia.

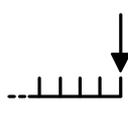


Ira



spent

his



final



years

in



Europe

and



Russia.



He



lived

with his

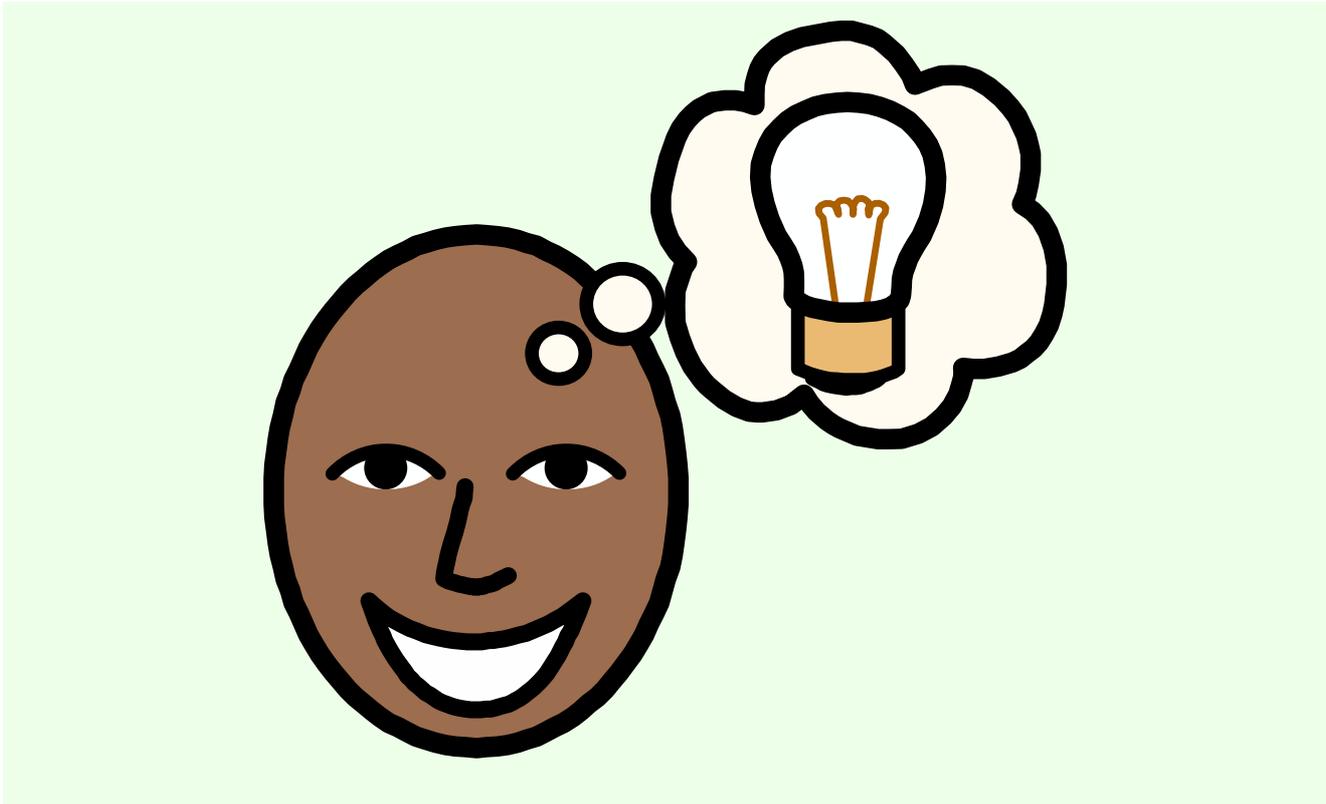


wife

and



children.



      **1867**
Ira Aldridge died whilst in Poland in 1867.

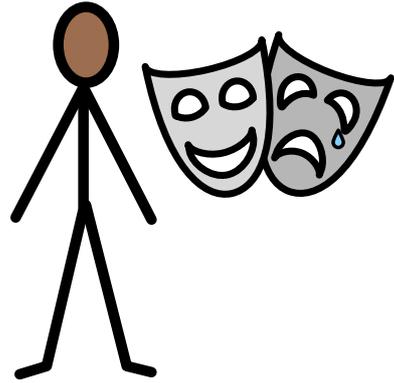
   
He was honoured by important heads of state.

   
Ira's successes inspired African-Americans.

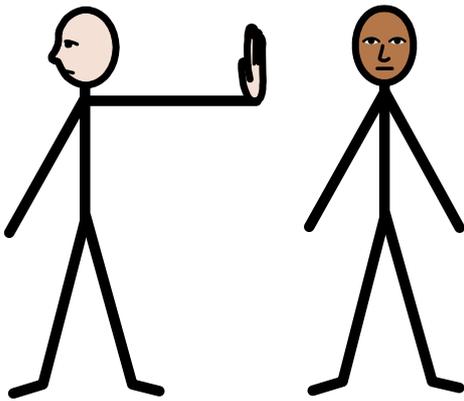
    
Theatres and acting companies were named after him.



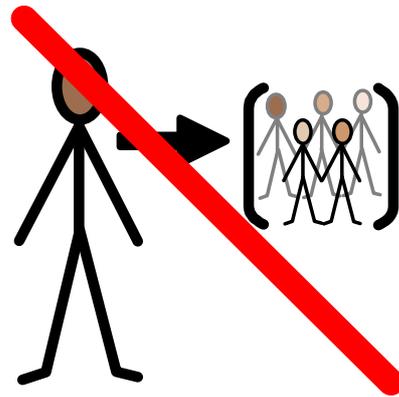
Ira Aldridge



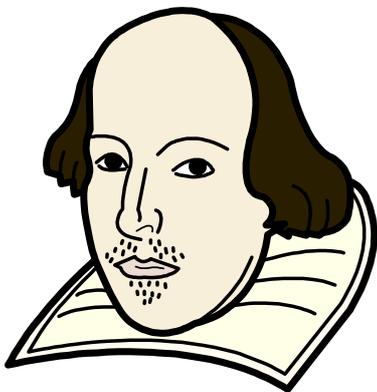
actor



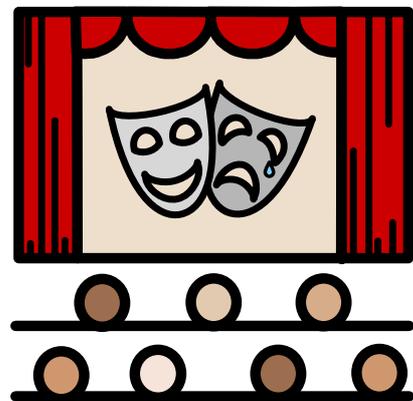
racist



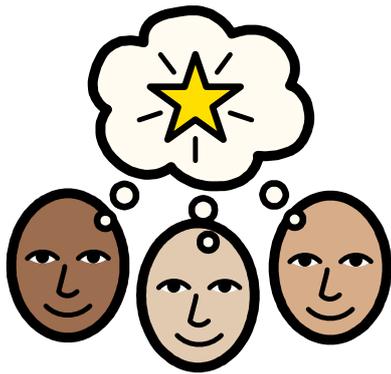
discrimination



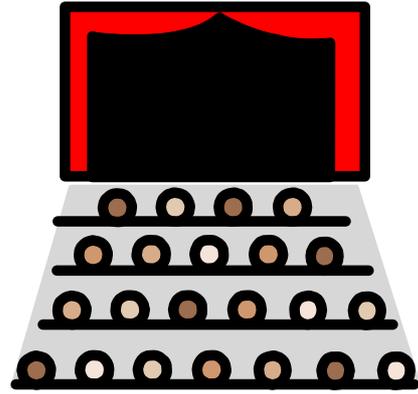
Shakespeare



plays



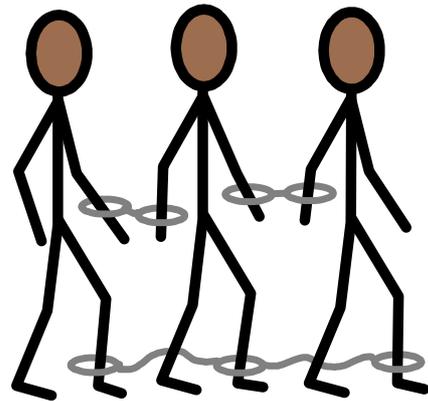
popular



audience



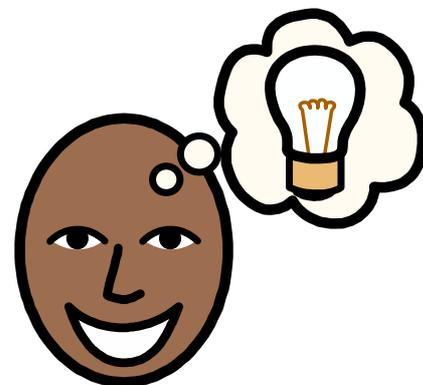
spoke out



slavery



success



inspire