

## **A TYPICAL RESPONSE INTRODUCTION**

### **Begin with the KCACTF "Advertisement."**

Before we begin, I would like to tell you about the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival. We are a national organization based in Washington, D. C., sponsored by the Department of Education and the Kennedy Center. The purpose of the organization is to promote and foster excellence in academic theatre. For the purposes of responses the United States is divided into eight regions. Each region holds its own festival. We are in Region Eight, which encompasses the states of Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah. KCACTF is a multi-level celebration in each region:

1. On one level, local respondents visit each participating campus and select from four to twelve of the most representative work in the region. These productions are then invited to the regional festival where they will be presented to the National Committee for consideration for the National Festival in Washington, D.C. The Regional Festival also presents workshops, New Play development activities, technical/design presentations, and the Irene Ryan Acting Competition. The on-site respondents may select from one to three performers from each production to participate in this audition competition. The technical/design respondent may also advance the student designers to the regional festival to present the production designs. Some of you may be interested in theatre criticism and may wish to participate in the Critics Workshop, offered at festival.
2. On the other level, the regional respondents will present to the company of each participating and associate production a response to their work. This is perhaps the most exciting part of the work of the KCACTF as this is where we share our ideas. I come to you tonight and your instructor or director may speak to my students next month. In this way we share our ideas and discoveries and challenge ourselves to make our productions the best they can be. We are not here to judge your work but rather to respond to it, to share with you what we saw.