Chapter One: Find Your North Star

Worksheet 1A: Audience

1. Media Your Audience Enjoys:

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1. Story Elements:

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| **Element** | **Audience Preference** |
| Pacing: on a scale of 1 (slow) to 10 (fast) |  |
| Danger: on a scale of 1 (cozy) to 10 (George. R.R. Martin) |  |
| World Depth: on a scale of 1 (fairy tale) to 10 (Tolkien) |  |

1. High Impact Themes:

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| **Theme** | **Why does this theme hit hard?** |
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Worksheet 1B: Story Core

1. Touchstone:

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1. Conflict:

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1. Characters:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Name** | **Character Motivation** | **Brief Description** |
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Worksheet 1C: The Big Picture

1. *Environment***:** Detail the broad environmental aspects of your world. Describe the landscapes, predominant climate patterns, and the general ‘feel’ of your world.

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1. *Magic/Technology*: Note the overall prevalence of magic or technology. Describe its influence on society, daily living, and the conflicts within your world. Is it accessible to all or guarded by the few? (There will be more on this later, so don’t worry if you do not know what to fill in here now).

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1. *Cultures*: List the prominent cultures, their defining traits, and how they fit into the world at large. Remember that while you might note defining characteristics here, these are *very* broad generalizations, and we’ll be defining cultures in much more detail later.

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Worksheet 1D: Plot Beats

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| **Tent Pole** | **Description** |
| *Steady State* (What does the world look like before the story begins?) |  |
| *Catalyst* (What event disrupts the state of balance?) |  |
| *Point of No Return* (What pushes your characters into the journey permanently?) |  |
| *Reacting* (How does the plot drag the characters along and how do they respond?) |  |
| *Midpoint Climax* (What raises the stakes?) |  |
| *Acting* (How do your characters begin to take control of events?) |  |
| *False Overcome* (What looks like success but isn’t?) |  |
| *All Hope is Lost* (What moment breaks your characters?) |  |
| *Turning Point* (What insight allows for eventual success or transformation?) |  |

Worksheet 1E: Story Circles

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Step** | **Story Circle Beat** | **Your Character’s Journey** |
| 1 | You |  |
| 2 | Need |  |
| 3 | Go |  |
| 4 | Search |  |
| 5 | Find |  |
| 6 | Pay |  |
| 7 | Return |  |
| 8 | Change |  |

Worksheet 1F: Scope Scale

1. Beginning Location:

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1. Potential End Location:

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1. Geographic Scale:

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Chapter Two: Add Fantasy

Worksheet 2A: The Purpose of Magic

1. Is magic a reflection on human society in your world (allegorical or not)?

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1. Is magic a vehicle for personal growth and self-discovery in your plot?

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1. Does magic provide you with a way to explore philosophical or ethical questions in your world?

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Worksheet 2B: Magic Systems

1. What is the source of magic in your world?

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1. What is the cost of magic in your world? What additional themes are introduced?

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| **Cost** | **Effect on the Mage** | **Themes affected** |
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1. What can and can’t be done with magic?

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| **Magical Possibilities** | **Magical Limits** |
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1. Detail the methods by which magic is manipulated.

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| How is power awakened? E.g.  Power lives in the mage and is called to the surface by concentration. |  |
| How is that power transformed into action? E.g. the mage speaks the magic name of an object to manipulate it. |  |
| How is excess power safely released? E.g. the mage absorbs any excess power back into themselves or grounds it into the earth, etc. |  |
| Special notes on manipulation, e.g. some spell systems require specific words said in a specific way, others, like the Dresden universe spells, simply require some words to be spoken, which words are unique to the mage. |  |
| Any items consumed in any phase of magic manipulation? E.g. the metals of Mistborn magic. |  |
| Any specific accoutrements required, e.g. a tattoo of the spell must be inked on to the mage’s body, or a wizard needs his staff? |  |

In addition to the above, you might find the below table useful if you have a magic system where specific actions generate specific effects. In other words, you have a magic system based on spells, written or spoken, or even a magic system like Mistborn where each metal has a particular effect.

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| **Magical Effect** | **Actions Required** | **Items Required** | **Additional Notes** |
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1. What types of consumable magic items exist in your world and how are they made? Can anyone use a consumable magic item, or can only mages use such things? Consumable magic items are things that are destroyed by being used, like potions that are drunk, or scrolls that are one use only, and so on.

I don’t include consumable organic components under magic items, those I see as more part of the “source of magic”, since they are not made by magic, but more used by magic. However, this is your form. You can absolutely include flowers, metals, and other consumable components here if it makes sense in your magic system.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Magic Item** | **Effect and who can use it** | **How is it made?** |
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1. What types of permanent magic items exist in your world and how are they made? Say a wizard staff exists, do you have to be a wizard to use it, or can spells be stored in such an item and then anyone can call those spells to the surface? This type of item can normally be created by a mage as part of the body of lore of your magic system (as opposed to mythic items or artifacts, which generally can’t be recreated).

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Magic Item** | **Effect and who can use it** | **How is it made?** |
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1. Are there any magical artifacts in your world? How were they created and what role do they play? Artifacts are different from permanent magical items in that they cannot readily be recreated. They normally require extreme fantasy, like divine intervention, or an elemental dragon, or an item crafted in the lost mysteries of time when magic flowed across the land like water and wishes could be made real.

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| **Magic Item** | **Effect and who can use it** | **How was it made and can more be made?** |
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1. How do people become mages in your world?

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| Can anyone become a mage or is a special event or attribute necessary? This doesn’t have to be genetic, it could be that a person needs to experience personal trauma to bond with a magic spirit and thus become a mage (e.g. Sanderson’s surgebinding), or it could be surviving a test. |  |
| How are potential mages taught their magic? Through a magic school, a master and apprentice system, communion with a spirit, etc. |  |
| Are there any dangers to learning magic? Is there a fatality rate? |  |
| When is the training considered complete and are there any tests on completion? |  |
| Is there any “higher education” equivalent, where a mage can go into research of magic, or learn more advanced spells, etc. |  |

Worksheet 2C: Fantastical Minerals

Repeat this template as required for each mineral.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mineral Name |  |
| Mineral Type (Crystal, metal, liquid, etc.) |  |
| Description (include any fantastical elements) |  |
| Location and Distribution (how widespread and where commonly found). |  |
| Use and Properties (what are its properties and how is it used) |  |
| Processing (how is it gathered, processed, worked, etc.) |  |
| Cultural Impact (which cultures are impacted and how) |  |
| Myths and Legends (what stories are told or idioms used, e.g. diamonds are a girl’s best friend, etc.) |  |
| Magic System Integration (Can this be used in your magic system? Does it use your magic system?) |  |
| Plot Purpose (how will this be used in your story / world) |  |

Worksheet 2D: Fantastical Weather Patterns

Repeat this template as often as required to describe any unusual weather phenomena, their effects on the land and people, and their frequency.

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| --- | --- |
| Weather Pattern Name |  |
| Type of weather (storm, mist, sunshine, etc.) |  |
| Description (include any fantastical elements) |  |
| Location and Cause (where is the pattern and/or what causes it) |  |
| What does it do? (Can people use it, does it cause damage, etc.) |  |
| Cultural Impact (which cultures are impacted and how) |  |
| Myths and Legends (what stories are told or idioms used, e.g. lightning never strikes the same place twice, etc.) |  |
| Magic System Integration (Can this be used in your magic system? Does it use your magic system?) |  |
| Plot Purpose (how will this be used in your story / world) |  |

Worksheet 2E: Fantastical Locations

Repeat this template as often as required to describe magical places in your world, their significance to the inhabitants, and how they influence local or global politics.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Location Name |  |
| Type of Location (megalith, settlement, mountain, lake, etc.) |  |
| Description (include any fantastical elements) |  |
| What does it do? (Can people use it, does it heal people, etc.) |  |
| Myths and Legends (what stories are told or idioms used, e.g. the continent of Mu which vanished at the dawn of human history, etc.) |  |
| Magic System Integration (Can this be used in your magic system? Does it use your magic system?) |  |
| Plot Purpose (how will this be used in your story / world) |  |

Worksheet 2F: Evolving Fantasy Traits

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Base Creature |  |
| Trait Your Adding |  |
| Ancestral Form |  |
| Evolutionary Pressure |  |
| Intermediate Stage |  |
| Final Form |  |
| Fantastical Shenanigans |  |

Worksheet 2G: Fantastical Flora and Fauna

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| --- | --- |
| Name & Nick Names |  |
| Type (plant, animal, insect, etc.) |  |
| Description (include any fantastical elements) |  |
| Location and Distribution (how widespread and where commonly found). |  |
| Origins (evolution, magical event, created, etc.) |  |
| Important Historical Events |  |
| Habitat and Ecology (also include ecological impact) |  |
| Reproduction and Lifecycle |  |
| Cultural Impact (which cultures are impacted and how) |  |
| Myths & Legends (what stories are told or idioms used, e.g. shy as a mouse, etc.) |  |
| Magic System Integration (Can this be used in your magic system? Does it use your magic system?) |  |
| Plot Purpose (how will this be used in your story / world) |  |

Worksheet 2H: Tamed Fauna & Flora

Here is a table to keep track of your tamed (or tame-able) fantasy plants and animals. Bear in mind that the actual definition of the creature is of course done in worksheet 2H.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Can be normally tamed (if yes, how)** | **Fantastical Taming Mechanism** | **Purpose of Taming** | **Notes** |
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Worksheet 2I: Domesticated Fauna & Flora

Here is a table to keep track of your domesticated fantasy plants and animals. Bear in mind that the actual definition of the creature is of course done in worksheet 2H. In addition, there is a domestication worksheet (Worksheet 3H), to keep track of domesticated animals in general.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **What role did fantasy play in domestication?** | **What role does fantasy still play?** | **How has the creature changed because of domestication?** |
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Worksheet 2J: Sapient Species

Here is a table to keep track of your sapient plants and animals. Bear in mind that the actual definition of the creature is of course done in worksheet 2H and the culture will be defined later.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Communication Method** | **Reproduction & Childcare** | **Tools** | **Magic** |
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Worksheet 2K: Fantasy Fauna and Flora

This is your list of fantastical fauna and flora for easy reference. Don’t try to fill in a hundred rows upfront, let this list grow organically as you create your campaign or write your story.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Kingdom** | **Creation Mechanic** | **Location** | **Description** |
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Chapter Three: Crafting the Natural World

Worksheet 3A: Base Map & Key Locations

*Basic Layout:* Jot down the large-scale features of your world. Where are the main landmasses? Where are the oceans and seas? What’s the scale of your map? Draw it if you can (in pencil!). Or past a picture from your map tool.

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Worksheet 3B: Geographic Regions

Here, we have the overview table and the detail table. As you build out additional regions, you might come back and add geographical elements and that’s fine.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Region Name** | **Biome** | **Notes** | **Characters** |
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**Region Breakdown:** Repeat as required.

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| --- | --- |
| Region Name: |  |
| Biome type, climate and its impact on cultures |  |
| Water Availability |  |
| Geological Resources |  |
| Fertile Lands |  |
| Key Locations (including settlements, refer to Exercise 20 for picking town placements) |  |
| Fantastical Fauna, Flora or landmarks and their cultural significance: |  |
| Myths & Legends caused by geography: |  |
| Barriers to trade caused by geography: |  |
| Trade routes created by geography (more on this in Chapter Seven): |  |
| Cultures in the region and which resources they control (more of this in Chapter Five): |  |

Worksheet 3C: Locations

1. **Key Locations:** Where do your heroes start and where is that on the map? Are there key features here? What is the biome like? Any settlements? As your story unfolds and you need more locations, add them here. You don’t want detail, just high level what exists where.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location and Feature Name (e.g. Tumbler River on Big Continent)** | **Type (Settlement, river, mountain, etc.)** | **Biome (desert, forest, etc.)** | **Plot relevance and character significance** |
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1. **Location Breakdown:** While the table above serves as a quick reference, you might need more detail on a given landmark or settlement. This table will help you keep track of specific key locations in greater detail. If you need to plunge even deeper, there are further resources listed in the chapter’s continued reading and viewing. Repeat this table as often as required.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Location Name: |  |
| Description, including special landmarks: |  |
| Fantastical Fauna & Flora: |  |
| Resources: |  |
| Ownership & Management: |  |
| Organizations: |  |
| Plot Notes: |  |

Worksheet 3D: Weather and Climate in Narrative

1. *Fantasy Weather:* Do you have any fantasy weather elements? How do they impact the regions defined in Worksheet 3B?

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1. *Weather Patterns:* For each of your important regions in Worksheet 3B, describe how the weather influences that region.

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1. *Plot Device****:*** Consider how weather can act as a catalyst in your story, perhaps providing challenges that characters must overcome or opportunities that they can exploit.

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Worksheet 3E: Building Out an Ecosystem

Use these tables to build out your ecosystems. Repeat for each ecosystem you need. Don’t forget about the fantasy fauna and flora defined in Chapter 2. (Jump forward and backward between these chapters if you need to. Worldbuilding is like that, everything, everywhere, all at once).

*Producers Table*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Energy Source & Conversion Mechanic** | **Description & Fantasy Elements** | **Abundance** | **Notes** |
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*Primary Consumers Table*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Feeds On** | **Description & Fantasy Elements** | **Abundance** | **Notes** |
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*Secondary & Tertiary Consumers* (add a note if the creature is an apex predator and also if they’re an omnivore).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Feeds On** | **Description & Fantasy Elements** | **Abundance** | **Notes** |
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*Decomposers Table*

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| **Name** | **Feeds On** | **Description & Fantasy Elements** | **Abundance** | **Notes** |
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*Parasites Table*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Feeds On** | **Description & Fantasy Elements** | **Abundance** | **Notes** |
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Worksheet 3F: Keystone Species

You can of course have multiple keystone species. Use the ecosystem tables as the main reference point (or actual worksheets from chapter 2 if you have those filled in) and just add the additional keystone details here.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Role In Ecosystem** | **Impact if removed** | **Fantasy Elements** | **Cultural or Mythic significance** |
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Worksheet 3G: Mutualistic Relationships

Keep track of the mutualistic relationships of your ecosystem here:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Species 1** | **Species 2** | **Relationship** | **Any fakes?** | **Fantasy Elements** | **Additional Notes** |
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Worksheet 3H: Domesticated Fauna and Flora

1. *Domesticated Fauna*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Description** | **Primary Use** | **Secondary Use(s)** | **How long has it been domesticated?** |
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1. *Domesticated Flora*

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| **Name** | **Description** | **Harvest Cycle** | **Required Food Preparation (e.g. wheat must be ground into flour)** | **How long has it been domesticated?** |
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Worksheet 3I: Towns

Use this table to keep track of your towns:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Town Name** | **Founding Reason** | **Current Purpose** | **Defense** | **Market Size** | **Defining Feature** |
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Use this worksheet for any towns that need detail:

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| --- | --- |
| Town Name |  |
| Size |  |
| Economic Activities |  |
| History |  |
| Notable People (alive) |  |
| Notable People (dead) |  |
| Plot Purpose |  |

Chapter Four: Create Cultures

Worksheet 4A: List of Cultures

Remember that list of cultures from your north star? Start there and fill in the following table before you plunge into the rest of the culture work. This table will help you keep track of cultures as you develop them further.

Remember: A culture can have multiple species or races or descriptions of sentient beings in them. In such a case, each species or race will likely also form a subculture which we’ll talk about right at the end of this chapter. [caveat]

For this table, fill in all the species or races that make up a given culture and mark which one (if any) are dominant.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Culture Name** | **Species / Races / description** | **What are people from the culture called?** | **Region** | **Earth and/or Fantasy Inspiration** | **Notes** |
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Worksheet 4B: Cultural North Star

On a scale of 1 on the left and 10 on the right, rate your culture. Nothing here is good or bad, this purpose is simply to guide you in understanding the vibe of your culture.

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|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |  |
| Hierarchy |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Egalitarian** |
| Collectivism |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Individualism** |
| Free |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Ordered** |
| Traditional |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Progressive** |

Worksheet 4C: Cultural Norms — Folkways

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| **Category** | **Folkway** |
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Worksheet 4D: Cultural Norms — Mores

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| **Category** | **More** | **Applicable Laws** |
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Worksheet 4E: Cultural Norms—Taboos

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| **Category** | **Taboo** |
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Worksheet 4F: Language of the Culture

1. *Replaced Words:* Note down words from English that you have replaced with your own words because they crossed the sandwich barrier.

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| **English Word** | **Replaced Word** |
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1. *New Words:* Define any new words, created specifically for your culture here. For example, I created the word sollies to mean a guild servant who is not a member of the craft guild but knows enough about the craft to be a skilled pair of hands to assist the guildmember. Your fantasy words also come here.

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| **Word** | **Definition** |
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1. *Idioms and Expressions:* Use this table to keep track of your idioms and expressions and what they mean.

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| --- | --- |
| **Idiom / Expression** | **Meaning** |
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1. *Non-Verbal Communication:* Use this table to keep track of your non-verbal communication and what those gestures mean. Include notes on using an implement like a fan or a stick if required. Don’t forget rude gestures. How does your culture flip someone the bird?

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| --- | --- |
| **Gesture or Movement** | **Meaning** |
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1. *Fantasy:* What is the impact of magic on language and writing? Are there any fantastical creatures that have impacted writing or the language?

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Worksheet 4G: Symbols of a Culture

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Symbol Name** | **Symbol Description** | **Purpose (Status etc.)** | **Evolution** | **Cultural outsider view** |
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Worksheet 4H: Cultural Identity Rituals

**List of identity marker rituals**

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| **Ritual Name** | **How does the ritual build unity?** | **Associated Life Event** | **Associated Cultural Event** | **Associated Seasonal Event** | **Cultural Outsider Perspective** |
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Ritual Worksheet

Use this worksheet for all rituals that need to be developed beyond just a name.

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| Ritual Name |  |
| When is the ritual performed? |  |
| What actions are performed? |  |
| What symbols are used in the ritual? |  |
| Is the ritual conducted in a special language? |  |
| Who must attend the ritual? |  |
| What happens if someone refuses to attend? |  |
| Is there a leader of the ritual and does that come with any status? |  |
| Has the ritual evolved in any way over the years? |  |
| Are non-participants allowed at the ritual? |  |

Worksheet 4I: History and Myths

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **When did it occur** | **Description** | **Economic Impact** | **Cultural Impact** |
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1. **Historical Events**
2. **Historical Founding Myth:**

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1. **Historical Heroic Myth:**

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1. **Historical Tragic Myth:**

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1. **Cosmological Founding Myth:**

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Worksheet 4J: Measurements

1. **Calendar:**

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| --- | --- |
| Length of the Year in earth days? |  |
| Number of Suns? |  |
| Number of Moons? |  |
| Special Cycles (e.g. eclipses, long seasons, wandering stars, cycles of the moon, etc.) |  |
| Founding event of the calendar (e.g. arrival on the planet, the god created us, founding of the city) |  |
| How many seasons and what are they called? |  |
| Calendar Festivals (e.g. start of year, end of year, mid-year, etc.) |  |
| Do you have a smaller unit, e.g. a week? How long is it? |  |
| Do you have an intermediate unit, e.g. a month? How many and does it have names? |  |
| Is there any calendar drift and how is it handled? |  |
| Common expressions & idioms from the calendar (e.g. the second moon is the slow moon, meaning the second half of a double lunar month passes slowly). |  |

1. **Time in a Day**

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| --- | --- |
| Length of one day in earth hours |  |
| Main division of the day (e.g. morning, day, evening) |  |
| Smallest named unit of time (e.g. 1 nib = an hour) |  |
| Shortest measurable unit (e.g. half-a-nib) |  |
| How is time measured (e.g. candle, water clock, magic, sundials, pendulum clock, etc.) |  |
| Common expressions around time, e.g. (soon, a long time, forever, in a few minutes) |  |
| Idioms around time (e.g. buy time, give me a minute, etc.) |  |

1. **Physical Measurements**

Use this table to track physical measurements. Add one row per unit type. For example, a sila bowl would take one row for the volume measurement type, with conversion as N/A since it is the base unit. There are 60 silas in a bariga, so a bariga would take a second row with a conversion field of 60 sila.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Measurement type** | **Unit Name** | **Based On (bowl, arm length, reindeer run, etc.)** | **Approx. Earth Equivalent** | **Conversion** | **Cultural Notes** |
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Worksheet 4K: Determine Family Structures

Complete for each culture defined in your list. Should the cultures be close enough to have exchanged cultural elements, allow family structures to bleed through to each other, while still having unique elements in each culture. Also consider what happens with cross-cultural marriages.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Kinship Name |  |
| Generational Divisions |  |
| Gender Divisions |  |
| Responsibility and authority |  |
| Labor Division |  |

A group of people with different colors

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Here is a blank kinship diagram for you to use and fill in for your kinship structure. Add additional icons if you have marriage structures resulting in odd kinship structures (e.g. I added an extra “father” in my triadic marriage model).

*Marriage:* Bear in mind that marriage might differ for social strata in your culture. Potentially each culture might have multiple entries of this form to define marriage across the strata.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Marriage Name |  |
| Who marries whom and how is it determined? |  |
| How closely are kin allowed to marry? |  |
| What is the impact of divorce and death? |  |
| How is marriage indicated and what ceremonies are involved? |  |
| Is marriage arranged or initiated through love? |  |
| Are there any gifts to either side of the family? |  |

*Inheritance:*How is wealth built in the family and how is it inherited?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What kind of inheritance model is followed? |  |
| What role does adoption play? |  |
| What role does marriage play? |  |
| Are there any tests? |  |
| What happens if a wealthy person dies without an heir of any kind? Who gets the wealth? |  |
| Are there any acts which disqualify the heir (e.g. patricide). |  |

*Succession:*How is the head of the family determined and is there any titles or social positions involved in this succession?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What kind of inheritance model is followed? |  |
| What role does adoption play? |  |
| What role does marriage play? |  |
| Are there any tests for adoption or marraige? |  |
| What happens if the title holder or head of family dies without an heir of any kind? |  |
| Are there any acts which disqualify the heir from inheriting the status position (e.g. patricide). |  |
| If a new family is formed, e.g. through marriage, how is the head of the family determined? |  |
| Is there any hierarchy in families, e.g. a clan type structure, with the extended family having a head as well as the nuclear family. |  |

*Fantasy:* Any specific fantasy elements? How about the impact of magic on kinship?

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Worksheet 4L: Alliance Formation Within a Society

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Alliance** | **How is it formed** | **Impact on Status** | **Impact on Inheritance** |
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Worksheet 4M: Determine Social Hierarchy

Complete for each culture defined in your list. Should the cultures be close enough to have exchanged cultural elements, allow status symbols and hierarchy attributes to bleed through to each other, while still having unique elements in each culture.

1. **Hierarchy Type**: Where does your status determination fall on the ascribed vs achievement spectrum and what is the ascribed or achieved details (e.g. birth, prettiness, wisdom, lottery, war, etc.)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |  |
| Achievement Status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Ascribed Status** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Achievement Elements** | **Ascribed Elements** |
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1. **Notable Exceptions**: Detail any cultural or individual exceptions to the status norm. For the type, choose one of the following: Legend like Amazons, historical figure like Joan of Arc, position like bacha posh or add your own type of exception. In impact on the culture, consider elements like language and clothing.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exception Name** | **Type** | **Details** | **Impact** |
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1. **Status Identification**: List your stratum (class, or caste, or whatever else defines hierarchy), honorifics and status identification markers for your culture. You don’t need to go into detail here, it can be at a high level like noble, commoner, clergyman. However, if you are going to go into detail on different strata of nobility, spending some time here naming those strata is a good idea.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Stratum Name E.g. Duke, Professor** | **Honorific**  **E.g. Your Grace, Sir** | **Rank Identification**  **E.g. Tassel on cap, coronet style, sash** |
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1. **Impact of Status**: Besides the exceptions listed above, are there any additional language elements associated with your social hierarchy? Are there any specific moments of history or legends that are relevant to your social hierarchy? Has the strata evolved over the history of your culture and if yes, in what way and by what cause?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Impact Type |  |
| Description |  |
| Historical Evolution |  |

1. **Social Mobility:** How can people move up and down within your society?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wealth |  |
| Adoption |  |
| Achievement |  |
| Religion |  |
| Fantasy or Magic |  |
| Other |  |

Worksheet 4N: Government Overview

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Core Function** | **Legitimacy Derived From** | **Implementation Overview** | **Conflict with other parts of government?** |
| Security and Defense (Protection from fantasy elements, other cultures, etc) |  |  |  |
| Resolution of Dispute (Laws, judgement processes etc) |  |  |  |
| Management of Collective Resources (Roads, water, communal lands, education, etc.) |  |  |  |

Worksheet 4O: Security and Defense

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| --- | --- |
| How is external security maintained? Don’t forget fantastical elements like magical shields here. |  |
| How is internal security maintained? Are there town guards, militias, etc.? Does the fantastical parts of your world play any role? |  |
| How are people recruited for internal or external security? |  |
| Does internal or external security offer any social mobility (e.g. citizenship through service) |  |
| Who controls security and defense and how do they derive their legitimacy? |  |

Worksheet 4P: Resolution of Disputes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How are laws made and how are they enforced? |  |
| What legal categories exist? E.g. magical, property, religious, safety, etc.  Bear in mind the norms created earlier in the creation of categories and laws. |  |
| What is the general punishment for lawbreaking? Physical? Incarceration? Fines? |  |
| Who judges disputes? Judges? Druids? A council of elders? Some kind of fantastical spirit or animal? How do they derive their legitimacy? |  |
| How is innocence or guilt determined? Is there a courtroom? Trail by combat? Some magical mechanic? |  |

Worksheet 4Q: Management of Collective Resources

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What are considered collective resources (e.g. water, magical substances, grazing rights, etc.) |  |
| How is access to collective resources determined? |  |
| Who manages access to collective resources and how do they derive their legitimacy? |  |

Worksheet 4R-1: Democracy Worksheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Who has suffrage? |  |
| Why do they have suffrage? Is there any group that has forced suffrage in history? |  |
| Voting blocks or one man one vote? |  |
| Direct democracy or representative? |  |
| Representative: who is allowed to stand for election and why? |  |
| What is the lowest position elected? |  |
| What is the highest position elected? |  |
| Direct democracy: how often are referenda organized? |  |
| Who organizes referenda and how are measures added to the ballot? |  |
| How do people vote? Consider magic and technology here, for both forms of democracy |  |

Worksheet 4R-2: Competence Worksheet

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| --- | --- |
| What does a candidate have to show competence in? |  |
| How do they demonstrate their competence? |  |
| Who adjudicates their competence? |  |
| Are there any shortcuts or corrupt elements? |  |
| What is the highest position open to competence? |  |
| What is the lowest position open to competence? |  |
| Do the competent decide laws? Or do they interpret and enforce only? |  |

Worksheet 4R-3: Higher Power Worksheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What is the Higher Power and how do they show their choice? |  |
| How corruptible is the Higher Power or the manner in which their choice is shown? |  |
| What is the highest position open to Higher Power selection? |  |
| What is the lowest position open to Higher Power selection? |  |
| Does the Higher Power interact with any other legitimacy directly (e.g. electing a king from a pool of heirs) |  |

Worksheet 4R-4: Might Makes Right

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How does people demonstrate their power? |  |
| Can there be challenge for positions? In other words, do you just demonstrate your strength once, or is it an ongoing battle? |  |
| What is the highest position open to might makes right? |  |
| What is the lowest position open to might makes right? |  |

Worksheet 4S: Legal System

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Law System |  |
| Legal System Type |  |
| Jurisdiction of the Law |  |
| How is innocence or guilt determined? |  |
| How is the law enforced? |  |

Worksheet 4T: Laws & Punishment

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Legal Category (e.g. religious, property, safety, magical, etc.)** | **Law Name** | **Law Description** | **Typical Punishments** |
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Worksheet 4U: Creating Cultural Art

1. **Artistic Discipline**:

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| --- | --- |
| Name of Artistic Discipline |  |
| Type of Art (fine, performing, magic, etc.) |  |
| Description |  |
| Common Materials & Techniques |  |
| Themes & Subjects |  |
| Cultural Significance |  |
| Patrons |  |
| Ways it is experienced (Displayed in galleries, performed at festivals, tavern storytelling, etc.) |  |

1. **Significant art pieces**

Keep track of the specific pieces of art (like a story, a song, a statue, etc) here.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Art Type** | **Art Name** | **Description & History** | **Current Cultural Importance** |
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Worksheet 4V: Sports Definition

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| Team Size |  |
| Physical, magical or combination of the two? |  |
| Land, water, or air-based? |  |
| Describe the arena or play area of the spot |  |
| Describe the rules of the sport. What counts as a victory? What can get you disqualified? Is there a time-out? |  |
| Are any special tools, weapons or gear required? |  |
| Are there restrictions on using magic? |  |
| How are players of the sport treated? |  |
| Has the sport had impact on the history of the culture? |  |
| Is the sport native to the culture or imported? |  |

Worksheet 4W: Strategy Game Definition

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of players (can be 1 for solitaire games) |  |
| Game pieces & Board |  |
| Describe the game, including the rules. Consider random elements as well as strategic actions and how you win. |  |
| Does magic or fantasy play any role? |  |
| Are there any restrictions on using magic? |  |
| Is there a simplified version for children? |  |
| How are players of the game treated? Is there social mobility in mastering the game? |  |
| Has the game had impact on the history of the culture? |  |
| Is the game native to the culture or imported? |  |

Worksheet 4X: Gambling Game Definition

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of players |  |
| Game pieces & Boards |  |
| Describe the game, including the rules. |  |
| Does magic or fantasy elements play any role in the game? |  |
| Are there restrictions on using magic? |  |
| How are players of the game treated? |  |
| How controlled is gambling within the culture, specific to the game. |  |

Worksheet 4Y: Cultural History & Subcultures

Using this table to track your culture’s historical events

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **What happened?** | **When?** | **What was the cultural effect?** |
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Using this table to track your culture’s subculture

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sub-culture name** | **What makes people belong to this subculture?** | **What is the major difference from the parent culture?** |
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Worksheet 4Z: Cultural Model Worksheet

**From the Culture List:**

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| --- | --- |
| Culture Name |  |
| Parent Culture (Leave blank if None) |  |
| People in the culture are called: |  |
| Region: |  |
| Inspiration |  |
| Notes |  |

Cultural Model:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Circle of the Model** | **Value** | **Inherited?** | **Historical Notes** |
| 1. *Core Ideology* | Hierarchy vs. Egalitarianism  Collectivism vs. Individualism  Free vs. Ordered  Traditional vs. Progressive |  |  |
| 1. *Cultural Norms* | Mores  Folkways  Taboos |  |  |
| 1. *Cultural Symbols* | Language  Symbols  Naming Conventions |  |  |
| 1. *Kinship* | Immediate Family Structure  Greater Family Structure  Cultural Structure |  |  |
| 1. *Hierarchy* | Leadership  Class Structure  Religious Hierarchies |  |  |
| 1. *Politics & Laws* | Governance  Legal System |  |  |
| 1. *Cultural Expression* | Art  Entertainment  Rituals |  |  |

Chapter Five: Material Conditions

Worksheet 5A: Material Conditions of Your Culture

You can of course copy the descriptions straight from the excel sheet, but those are my generic descriptions and it’s worth putting in your own for the sake of remembering your thought process when you refer back to this.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Technology** | | | | | | |
|  | Description | PS | EL | KL | MM | Overall |
| Homes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Medical |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sanitation & Hygiene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Generational Transfer of Information |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Navigation |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons & Warfare |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tools & Technology |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Magic** | | | | | | |
|  | Description | Source | Skill | Princ | Const | Overall |
| Homes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Medical |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sanitation & Hygiene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Generational Transfer of Information |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Navigation |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons & Warfare |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tools & Technology |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fantasy** | | | | | | |
|  | Description | Sub | Biome | Res | Gov | Overall |
| Homes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Medical |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sanitation & Hygiene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Generational Transfer of Information |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Navigation |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons & Warfare |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tools & Technology |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Levels | | | |
|  | Technology | Magic | Fantasy |
| Homes |  |  |  |
| Agriculture |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |
| Medical |  |  |  |
| Sanitation & Hygiene |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |
| General Transfer of Information Between Generations |  |  |  |
| Navigation |  |  |  |
| Weapons & Warfare |  |  |  |
| Tools & Technology |  |  |  |

Chapter Six: Build the Economy

Worksheet 6A: Economic Resources

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Resource Type** | **Description** | **Who Controls It?** | **Why Is It Valuable?** |
| Land |  |  |  |
| Livestock |  |  |  |
| Foodstuffs/Crops |  |  |  |
| Metal/Ore |  |  |  |
| Magical Resource |  |  |  |
| Divine Blessings |  |  |  |
| Labor/Servitude |  |  |  |
| Other (custom) |  |  |  |

Worksheet 6B: Timeline for Wealth Distribution

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time Period / Era** | **Steering Model (Market, Command, Hybrid)** | **Primary Steering Authority** | **Wealth Distribution Mechanism** | **Key Disruptive Event** | **Social Impact** |
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Worksheet 6C: Economic Objectives

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| --- | --- |
| Current Objective |  |
| Primary Beneficiaries |  |
| Key Resources |  |
| Potential Shift Triggers |  |
| Long-Term Cultural Effects |  |

Use this table to track shifts in objectives over time.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time Period / Era** | **Current Objective** | **Primary Beneficiaries** | **Key Resources** | **Trigger that caused a shift** | **Long-term effects** |
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Worksheet 6D: Logistical Chains

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Raw Resource** | **Process / Craft Involved** | **Product Type (Final/Input)** | **Output Product** | **Primary Labor Force** | **Who Buys or Uses It?** |
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Worksheet 6E: Currency

Use this table to track the various names of currency in your world. I have Empire coins, Temple money, and Imevunese coins for example, that all have slightly different methods of manufacture in my world.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Currency Name** | **Material or Form** | **Relative Value (to base)** | **What It’s Called in Slang** | **Special Features (magical, divine, etc)** |
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Use this table for each currency to map out their denomination values:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Denomination Smallest | Denomination +1 | Denomination +2 | Denomination +3 | Denomination +4 |
| Denomination Smallest | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Denomination +1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |
| Denomination +2 |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| Denomination +3 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| Denomination +4 |  |  |  |  | 1 |

Worksheet 6F: Markets

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name / Location** | **Goods Traded** | **Who Controls It** | **Description & Notes** | **Buyers Rules** | **Sellers Rules** |
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Worksheet 6G: Economic Transportation

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Economic Good (resource, product, etc)** | **Care required with transportation (delicate, living, etc.)** | **Starting Location** | **Ending Location** | **Transportation** | **Cost & Time** |
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Worksheet 6H: Macroeconomic Framework

Use this form to document your current macroeconomic framework for each economy.

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| --- | --- |
| Primary Wealth Source (Agriculture, trade, magic services, etc.) |  |
| What determines ownership (tradition, magic, law, kinship or something else) |  |
| Contract Enforcement Method (could be magic, courts, public shame, honor, etc.) |  |
| Economic Elites (who controls and shapes economic flow? Refer back to the class / religious systems) |  |
| Forbidden/Taboo Economic Magic (if applicable) |  |
| Magic Regulation Structure if applicable |  |
| Currency Basis (remember to refer back to layer 5) |  |
| Trust Across Borders Maintained By (what holds multicultural trade together) |  |
| Economic Justice Model (who gets restitution when trade fails? Who is responsible for ensuring justice? Consider models like feudal obligation, guild arbitration, even divine redistribution) |  |

Use this table to track changes that have occurred in your macroeconomic framework.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timeline / Era** | **Economic Stage** | **Important Economic Institutions** | **Events which led to change** |
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Worksheet 6I: Microeconomic Framework

Document your microeconomic framework here:

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| --- | --- |
| Product Trust Mechanism (what confirms a product’s quality? Who enforces the standards?) |  |
| Labor Training System (who controls the labor education pipeline?) |  |
| Labor Protections (Is labor dignity important? Is abuse prevented or tolerated?) |  |
| Capital Raising Method (How is investment money gathered?) |  |
| Dominant Business Type (e.g. guilds, trade houses, merchant companies, monopolies, etc.) |  |
| Market Regulation Form (are markets chaotic, tightly regulated, or lightly governed?) |  |
| Crisis Intervention Actor (If something goes wrong, does anyone intervene, e.g. a king, the state, the temples etc. Is there any safety net for the people and / or the businesses in an economy) |  |

Use this table to document the evolution over time of your microeconomic frameworks:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timeline / Era** | **Economic Stage** | **Important Economic Institutions** | **Events which led to change** |
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Worksheet 6J: Trade Networks

Use this table to list your goods for export and import for a given economy.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goods** | **Import / Export** | **Trade Partner(s)** | **Multi-leg journey?** |
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Use this form to define each trade route for the economy.

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| --- | --- |
| Trade Route Name |  |
| Goods Traded (list their source economies in brackets for clarity) |  |
| Economies / cultures affected by the route, either as pass through traffic or as primary trading economies |  |
| Legs of the Route (Don’t forget about potential sea routes) |  |
| Risks (Bandits, deserts, weather, etc.) |  |
| Myths & Legends (Are stories told about brave traders or terrible monsters?) |  |
| Fantasy Elements (e.g. epic barriers, magical craft used etc. |  |
| Currencies Used for Trade |  |

Worksheet 6K: Resilience Map

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Key Trade Partners* (Who does your society rely on most for essential goods or services) |  |
| *Vulnerable resources or industries* (What is irreplaceable) |  |
| *Resilience Structures* (What institutions, communities or even magical safeguards exist to buffer against shock) |  |
| *Winners and Losers* (If everything changes, who gains power and status and who loses?) |  |

Worksheet 6L: Timeline of Change Rods

Document the change rods that have struck your economy and what change resulted from this.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timeline / Era** | **Lightning Rod Type** | **Description** | **Resulting Change** |
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Chapter Seven: Create Identities & Religions

Worksheet: 7A List of Identities

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Internal Name** | **External Name(s)** | **Membership Determined by** | **Role in the Culture** | **Notes** |
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This table should be enough for most of your identities in a given culture. However, if you need to go deeper into a specific identity, here is a detailed identity worksheet.

**Internal Identity Definition**

Focuses on how the group perceives itself from within.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Name & Nick Names* (Internal) |  |
| *Membership:*  Who belongs to the group, and why? (Based on shared biology, experiences, beliefs, geography, or other factors.)  Is membership fixed or fluid (can outsiders join) |  |
| *Self-Perception:*  How does the group describe itself? Are they proud, humbled, embattled, etc. |  |
| *Core Values:*  What principles unify the group? (E.g., loyalty, independence, faith, innovation.)  Are there any sacred or inviolable beliefs? |  |
| *Societal Role:*  What role does the group believe they play? Are they caretakers, warriors, rulers, outcasts?  Do they see their role as divinely ordained, self-imposed, or culturally assigned? |  |
| *Myths & Legends:*  Does the identity have a founding myth?  Does the identity have any legendary heroes?  Are there story of crises points experienced by the identity? |  |

**External Identity Definition**

Focuses on how the identity is perceived from without

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Name & Nick Names* (External) |  |
| *Membership:*  Who does the broader culture think belongs to this group? Is it different from the group’s own definition?  Are there stereotypes about who fits or doesn’t fit? |  |
| *Symbols:*  What symbols represent the group? (Flags, crests, tattoos, clothing, magical artifacts.) |  |
| *Cultural Perception:*  How does the broader culture view the group’s values? Are they respected, feared, mocked, or envied?  What societal role does the broader culture assign to the group? |  |
| *Myths & Legends:*  Are their cautionary tales about the identity?  How about fables?  Are they viewed as aspirational or as something to be avoided? |  |

**Cultural Pressure**

Identities exist within a culture and therefor it’s important to understand their interaction with the surrounding culture. The third part of the identity worksheet helps you explore that

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Reinforcement:*  What aspects of the root culture does the group emphasize? (E.g., patriotism, religion, ancestral traditions.)  How does this reinforcement strengthen the group’s identity? |  |
| *Resistance:*  What aspects of the root culture does the group reject? (E.g., laws, norms, dominant ideologies.)  How does the rejection shape the group’s distinctiveness? |  |
| *Reactions to Pressure:*  How does the group respond to cultural pressure to conform? Do they assimilate, resist, or evolve?  Are there internal divisions based on reactions to cultural pressure? |  |
| *Reactions to Reinforcement:*  How does the group respond to validation or support from the broader culture? Does it lead to cooperation, dominance, or complacency? |  |

Worksheet 7B: Metaphysical Reality

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Objective or Subjective Metaphysical Reality |  |
| How Universal Truth Drives Culture & Religion |  |
| What Drives Culture and Religion without Universal Truth |  |

Worksheet 7C: Religion Divine Focus

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Divine Focus Type |  |
| Fantastical Integration (Magic etc.) |  |
| Plot Integration |  |

Worksheet 7D: Religious Meta-forces

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name & Description** | **Domains & Attributes** | **Relationship with other forces** | **Fantastical Impact** | **Actual Nature** |
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Worksheet 7E: Commandments

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Commandment** | **Aspirational or Prescriptive** | **Cultural More & Relationship** |
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Worksheet 7F: Creation Myth

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Worksheet 7G: Myths & Fables

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Worksheet 7H: End-Time Prophecies

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Worksheet 7I: Places of Worship

Fill in a row for each place where worship might take place in the religion.

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| **Place of Worship Type** | **Role Within the Religion** | **Design & Architecture** | **Accessibility** |
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Worksheet 7J: Roles in Places of Worship

In this section, consider who works in your place of worship and what their role is, from the priest or shaman or nun, to the cleaning person or gardener. In addition, consider the worshippers themselves of course.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Place of Worship Type** | **Role Description & Duties** | **Strictures (specific class, gender, etc.)** | **Addressed How / Role Name (Brother, Goodwife, etc.)** |
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Worksheet 7K: Regular Religious Practices

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Regular Ritual Name** | **Occurs when? (Daily, weekly, etc.)** | **Activities Performed** | **Place Performed** | **People Involved (worshipper, leader, choir, etc.)** |
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Worksheet 7L: Religious Festivals

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Festival Name** | **Occurs how often and when?** | **Activities Performed** | **Place Performed** | **People Involved (worshipper, leader, choir, etc.)** | **Purpose and Mythology** |
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Worksheet 7M: Religious Life Events

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event Name** | **What is the trigger? (Birth, death, marriage, age, etc)** | **Activities Performed** | **Place Performed** | **People Involved (worshipper, leader, choir, etc.)** |
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Worksheet 7N: Sacred Texts

Complete the form below for each sacred text in your religion.

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| --- | --- |
| Sacred text name |  |
| Medium of preservation (what is it written on and how is it preserved) |  |
| Role of the text (central or interpretive) |  |
| Who has access to the text |  |
| Interpretation model |  |
| Content of the text |  |
| Fantastical Elements |  |

Worksheet 7O: Religious Symbols & Art

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Symbol Name** | **Description / Drawing** | **Role** | **History / Origin / Mythos** | **Fantastical Elements?** |
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| **Art Type** | **Description** | **Notes** | **Fantastical Elements?** |
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Worksheet 7P: Clergy of the Religion

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Leadership Hierarchy** | **Title** | **Roles and Responsibilities** | **Fantastical Elements?** |
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Worksheet 7R: Selection within the Religious Hierarchy

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Selection Process** | **Any way to get kicked out?** | **How often are new people inducted?** | **Fantastical Elements?** |
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Worksheet 7S: Religious Training

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Training Period** | **Training Activities** | **Mastery Demonstrated** | **Fantastical Elements?** |
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Worksheet 7T: Religious Order

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| --- | --- |
| Order Name |  |
| Purpose |  |
| Founding Event |  |
| Leader Title |  |
| Orthodoxy Stance |  |
| What people think of the order |  |
| Secrets |  |

Worksheet 7U: Religions influence on Secular Politics

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Worksheet 7V: Religion Social Impact

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Worksheet 7W: Religious Sect Table

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sect Title** | **Schismatic Event** | **Size of the Schism** |
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For most of your sects, just naming them is enough detail, but if you do need more detail on a specific sect of your religion, here is a detailed worksheet.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sect Title |  |
| Orthodoxy Differences |  |
| Friends |  |
| Enemies |  |
| Secrets |  |

Worksheet 7X: Religious Relations

Add a row for each identity the religion you are defining has a relationship with.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Identity Name** | **Type of Relationship** | **Historical Events** | **Current Relations** |
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Chapter Eight: A Day in the Life of…

Worksheet 8A: Home & Hearth

Home:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description (size, materials, layout) |  |
| Ownership (rented, owned, part of a larger complex) |  |
| Occupants (Family size, shared, multiple generations) |  |

Furniture & Fittings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Main materials (wood, metal, cloth, etc.) |  |
| Types of furniture (closets, beds, etc.) |  |
| Lighting (Candles, oil lamps, magic, etc.) |  |
| Water Access (Well, pump, indoor plumbing, etc.) |  |
| Food management (cooking and preservation) |  |

Animals & Plants

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pets & Working animals (dogs, ferrets, cats, etc.) |  |
| Food animals (chickens, goats, pigs, etc.) |  |
| Kitchen garden plants (vegetables, herbs, etc.) |  |
| Ornamental garden plants (flowers, shrubs, etc.) |  |

Worksheet 8B: Hygiene

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bathing Practices (Frequency, method, communal or private) |  |
| Waste Disposal (Outhouse, chamber pots, sewer system) |  |
| Cleaning Practices (How homes, streets and public places are kept clean) |  |

Worksheet 8C: Clothing:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Typical Attire (Everyday clothing for both men and women). |  |
| Material (Wool, cotton, silk, animal hides, magical cloth, etc.) |  |
| Distinction (Any major differences based on gender occupation or other factors like identities?) |  |
| Sumptuary Laws (Any legal restrictions on what people may or may not wear?) |  |
| How is clothing made? (Tailors, self-made, etc.) |  |

Worksheet 8D: Food

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number and timing of daily meals: |  |
| Typical foods (grains, vegetables, meat, foraged items, etc.) |  |
| Seasonal variations: |  |
| Special treats: |  |
| How is food grown (agriculture) |  |
| What do they drink in general? |  |
| What do they drink for special occasions? |  |
| Are there drinks for certain times of the day? |  |

Worksheet 8E: Personal Economics

Everyday Money Matters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What are common occupations and how do people learn to do them? |  |
| What are the typical costs of a household? Who all works in a household? |  |
| Are there any taxes, guild fees, or other costs of doing business? |  |
| Where do people buy stuff and how? |  |

Measurements:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How is time tracked during the day? |  |
| How is time tracked in the short term (Weeks? Ten days? Months? Seasons?) |  |
| How is time tracked over years? Is there a calendar system? |  |
| How are small distances (e.g. an inch, a foot or a centimeter) tracked? |  |
| How are mid distances (a yard or a meter) tracked? |  |
| How are long distances (a kilometer or a mile) tracked? |  |
| How are small things (an ounce, a gram) weighed? |  |
| How are mid weights weighed (a kilogram, a pound) |  |
| How are heavy things weighed (a stone for example) |  |

Worksheet 8F: After Dark

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Entertainment (games, storytelling, music, etc.) |  |
| Sports or recreation (plays, tournaments, foot races, etc.) |  |
| News and Communication (How is information shared?) |  |
| Places of entertainment (taverns, casinos, restaurants, etc.) |  |
| Any restrictions on entertainment? (laws against drinking or gambling, etc.) |  |

Worksheet 8G: Routines

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Daily Routine of the character |  |
| Weekly / Monthly Routine |  |
| Yearly Routine |  |
| Special festivals, life events, rituals & celebrations |  |

Worksheet 8I: What if

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Travel and Navigation |  |
| Communication far and near |  |
| Weapons and Warfare |  |
| Healing and Medical Knowledge |  |
| Potential threats and hazards |  |