

Event Worksheet

Cultural events offer a window into our characters' worlds and identities. This worksheet is designed to help your research process and fact gathering. This can be used along with the Writers for Diversity Characters Worksheet.

BASICS

Event name:

Date:

Location:

Is this a life cycle event? (e.g. birth, wedding, death, bar mitzvah or quinceañera)

What is your character's role at this event? (e.g. host, guest, vendor)



Notes

BOUNDARIES

To what degree will your character be participating in this event?

Are there any status/gender restrictions at this event? (e.g. exclusion of unmarried people or strict gender separation)

Are attendees limited by gender, status, purity, or other qualifiers?



Notes

APPEARANCE

Associated colors or symbols?

Prohibited colors or symbols?

What traditional garments are worn for this event?

Any clothing that should not be worn as it would cause offense?

Any special makeup or markings used? (e.g. ashes, Mehndi tattoos)

Specific hairstyles or coverings worn at this event?



Notes

LANGUAGE

Traditional greeting?

Traditional farewell?

Traditional blessings, prayers or sayings used during the event?

Is any language or action forbidden or restricted during this event?



Notes

BELIEF

Is there a religion or philosophy associated with this event?

Are there any rituals/practices expected of participants?

Are there any special or sacred items used for this event?

Are there any restrictions on who can use these items?



Notes

ACTIVITIES

Any physical movements associated with this event? (e.g. handshakes, bowing or dancing)

What foods are served?

What foods are forbidden? Fasting?

Any significant music?

Any traditional songs?

What other traditions are involved? (e.g. storytelling, scarification)



Notes

WRITERS FOR DIVERSITY

Writers for Diversity is committed to helping authors create diverse worlds and characters in all media and genres through education and awareness. We believe the creative process requires space for personal growth and compassionate conflict resolution. If you write identities outside your lived experience, we offer a safe place for hard questions and respectful dialogue. Diversity is for everyone.

join the conversation at www.facebook.com/WritersforDiversity