Name: Date:

With at least two individuals from a culture different from your own, complete the following questionnaire. Discuss your responses as a group. Be sure to maintain an objective and respectful discourse. Try to make your partners feel comfortable with saying whatever comes to mind without fear of judgement. Take notes on comments made by your partners that you feel provide significant insight into understanding the way they view the world. Remind them that the questions are not necessarily about them specifically, but rather their home culture as a group. Ask each partner why they answered the way they did and share the same for your responses. When you finish the discussion, collect each of the questionnaires.

1. **History**

List the top 5 historical events to impact your culture (local, ethnic, racial, national, etc.):

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

1. **Economics**

List the top 3 industries and/or resources in your culture’s economy:

a.

b.

c.

How would you describe your economic system?

1. **Beliefs**

What is the dominant religion or spiritual practice in your culture, if any?

What do you believe to be the origin of the universe?

What do you believe to be the nature of life and death?

1. **Practices**

What rituals are practiced in your culture?

What customs are practiced in your culture?

What ceremonies commonly take place in your culture?

What holidays do you celebrate in your culture?

What sports are most popular in your culture?

What hobbies are most popular in your culture?

What forms of entertainment are popular in your culture?

What other practices are commonly regarded as important in your home?

1. **Politics**

How would you describe the socio-political attributes of your government?

How would you describe the system of government used in your culture?

1. **Communication**

How would you describe the dominant communication style of your culture?

How would you describe your discourse style?

What are the dominant and non-dominant languages where you are from?

What is the official/legal language of government and business where you are from?

What languages do you speak?

1. **Values**

Which non-religious values are important according to your culture?

# **Partner Discussion**

Gather as much of the following information as your partner is willing to share:

Partner 1 (Name):

## Relevant cultural information

Nationality:

Current Residence:

Racial and/or Ethnic group:

Economic background:

Educational background:

Additional info:

Partner 2 (Name):

## Relevant cultural information

Nationality:

Current Residence:

Racial and/or Ethnic group:

Economic background:

Educational background:

Additional info:

Name: Date:

After the discussion, reflect on the responses in each of the questionnaires as well as your notes by answering the following prompts:

1. How has one or more of the historical events mentioned affected:

You:

Partner 1:

Partner 2:

1. How have the industries, economic products, and government structures influenced:

You:

Partner 1:

Partner 2:

1. How do the beliefs and practices identified define and structure the world as seen by:

You:

Partner 1:

Partner 2:

1. What do the preferred communication styles and value systems tell us about:

You:

Partner 1:

Partner 2:

Debriefing Questions

As we begin to understand that worldviews are constructed through a shared cultural experience, we can investigate those experiences that define our culture and thus our worldview. Likewise, we can begin to explore the worldview of others.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Developing** | **Emerging** | **Proficient** |
| **Knowledge**  *Knowledge of cultural worldview frameworks* | Demonstrates partial understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs and practices. | Demonstrates adequate understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs and practices. | Demonstrates sophisticated understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs and practices. |

Now that you have completed the questionnaire and a discussion with your partners, I would like you to reflect on your worldview and then the worldviews of your partners. Either as written reflection or as a whole group discussion, answer the following questions.

1. Of the elements of worldview frameworks discussed, which do you feel play the largest role in how the world is viewed and understood by members of your culture? By members of your partners’ cultures?
2. What do you feel was the most significant and/or surprising thing you learned about your own worldview and that of your partners?
3. Were there any historical or political events that you realized influence how you see the world that you perhaps had never considered before?
4. Can you make connections between 2 or more elements of worldview explored in the questionnaire? (e.g. History, politics, and values; values, beliefs, and practices; etc.) Can you explain these connections? How does each element influence/inform the other?
5. How might you take what you’ve learned here and apply it to new interactions in the future?
6. How is understanding the complexity of elements important to members of another culture beneficial to you? In school? At work? Traveling abroad?