

(6 PAGES MAX, plus photo/sketch & “Initial Expectations” attached)

Type responses directly onto this form, single-spaced
****Preserve numbering & prompts, but delete unused spaces****
*****50 points for completion & review—NO PARTIAL CREDIT*****

Name of site: _____ Event: _____

Day & date: _____ Exact times you were on site: _____

Person interviewed: _____ Interview time, length & place: _____

Before & during your site visit, for each of the topics below, generate a list of questions to ask yourself &/or others while at the worship site &/or interviewing a participant. Then during & following your visit, answer those questions to the best of your ability, **focusing as much as possible on observable sensory details & words**. **IMPORTANT: start thinking about your questions at least two days before your visit; draw your wording from “Foundational Questions, Concepts & Claims.”**

A. Practice Shaping Reflection

- (i) Articulate 5-8 questions about the way(s) & the extent to which **objects, actions & words** used in ritual *spontaneously inspired* participants’ **thoughts & feelings about the sacred**.

Things to include: symbolic objects/images, implements used, names or words you recognize being repeated, rhythms & melodies, translations (printed books or obtained from interview)

For example: “What exactly does the priest do to the bread & wine during the worship, and what unseen sacred beings or forces does he experience while doing this?”

CAUTION: ***AVOID*** questions like “what is the meaning of X?” or “what does Y represent?” that assume there is ONE meaning/explanation and thus obscure diversity of interpretations.

- (ii) Articulate 3-5 questions about the way(s) & the extent to which the **spatial arrangement of people in the worship space** *spontaneously inspired* thoughts & feelings about the sacred.

Things to include: features of the building & worship space, number & features of people who attend, distinguishing marks of specialists vs. laypeople.

For example: “Where do most people stand in relation to the statue of Krishna and in relationship to the Brahmin offering worship, and how does their position make them feel?”

- (iii) Articulate 2-3 **other questions** you have (&/or that you imagine the audience of your report might want to have answered) **regarding the practice** you will observe.

- (iv) Number and then answer the above questions based on the **evidence of what you saw & heard**, attaching at least one SKETCH OR PHOTO to address questions in A(ii). Attribute all perception of unseen presence either (i) to yourself OR (ii) to someone you spoke with. (IMPORTANT: record emotional responses &/or evaluative judgments in C below.)

B. Reflection Heightening Engagement in Practice

- (i) Articulate 3-5 questions about **thoughts & feelings** that people you will observe at the site *intentionally cultivate* to heighten engagement in practice.
- (ii) Articulate 3-5 questions about **thoughts & feelings** that the person you will interview *intentionally cultivates* to heighten engagement in practice.

Things to include: non-verbal signs, facial expressions, side conversations, direct quotes.

For example: “How do X hold in mind when the Torah scroll is paraded down the aisle?”

(iii) Articulate 2-3 questions about the way(s) & extent to which people gathered at the worship site seem to **reflect about authoritative sources** to intensify their engagement in worship.

Things to include: specific titles, translations (from printed books or explained orally in interview), familiarity with assigned sources discussed in class.

For example: “To what extent does Mr. Y think of the *Qur’an* when he imagines what Allah is like during the worship?”

(iv) Articulate 2-3 **other questions** you have (&/or that you imagine the audience of your report might want to have answered) **regarding the thoughts & feelings of people** you will observe.

(v) Number & then answer the above questions based on the **evidence of what you saw & heard**, referring explicitly to details from some text assigned in class &/OR received and translated at the site, and providing at least two **DIRECT QUOTES** from your interview.
(IMPORTANT: record emotional responses &/or evaluative judgments in C below.)

C. Outsider’s Perspectives on Practice & Reflection

(i) Articulate 2-3 questions about **thoughts & feelings** YOU will spontaneously experience and intentionally cultivate while observing the event and listening to your interviewee.

Things to include: your curiosity, your upbringing, other [lack of] experience with religion.

For example: “What will I be/am I most interested in?” “How will my love of Church/alienation from my Christian upbringing influence what I pay attention to?”

- (ii) Articulate 3-5 questions about the way(s) & extent to which what you observe at the site and hear in the interview will resemble **AND differ** from practices and reflection about practice documented in one of the primary sources in Units 1 & 2 (i.e., used for Application Exercises), which **need not represent that same religion** but should describe some similar practice.

Things to include: objects, actions, words, locales or spaces, specialists vs. laypeople, thoughts & feelings described in one of the assigned primary sources.

For example: “To what extent does the offering of food by Buddhist nuns resemble the food-related Taoist practices described by Kristof Schipper?”

- (iii) Articulate 2-3 **other questions** you might have (&/or that you imagine the audience of your report might want to have answered) **regarding the variations in practice & reflection.**

- (iv) Number & then answer the above questions based on the **evidence of your independent reflection and reading**, citing material from at least **THREE (3) SEPARATE PAGE #S** for C(ii).

ANALYSIS OF PARTS A-C & PLANNING FINAL PRODUCT

→ Review the introductory on-line essay, "[Essential Elements of Religion](#)" & then summarize & cite your findings in A-C of this worksheet by answering the questions below.

If you prefer you may **use a sketch or diagram to address these questions.**

- Overall, how does the practice of the religious community you visited appear to inspire the thoughts and feelings of people in the community? (Refer to details in sections A & C(i).)

- How do the thoughts & feelings of people in the religious community you visited appear to heighten their engagement in practice? (Refer to details in section B & C(ii).)

→ Describe (100-150 words) how you will structure your final product, (sequence of parts, use of narrative or visuals, etc.) to emphasize the **mutual influence of practice & reflection in religious life** in representing what you observed at the site & heard in your interview.

→ [After peer review, WRITTEN ON BACK:] Explain which of the comments you received from your reviewer seem **most useful for creating the final product**; cite sections of the ORW by number/letter (e.g., A(ii), C(iii)). Describe also any omissions and/or inaccuracies noted from your own rereading your work, and ***what you plan to do about them***.