■ Worldbuilding Essentials for Fiction Writers

A Shareable Resource Sheet

■ Geography & Environment

- What is the climate like?
- What major landforms exist?
- Where are settlements located and why?
- Are there any natural borders?

■ *Tip: Sketch a basic map or use Inkarnate.*

■ Culture & Society

- What languages or dialects are spoken?
- What holidays or traditions are practiced?
- What are the core values or social norms?
- Is there a class or caste system?

■ *Tip: Create one cultural custom per region.*

■ History & Politics

- Who are the ruling powers?
- What historical events shaped the world?
- Are there active conflicts or alliances?
- How does power shift hands?

■ *Tip: Develop a timeline of major events.*

■ Technology & Magic

- What systems exist and how do they work?
- Who has access to them?
- What fuels the system?
- Are there any laws or taboos?

■ *Tip: Define what can and cannot be done.*

■ Religion & Belief Systems

- Are there dominant faiths or cults?
- How do people interact with deities?
- Are beliefs unified or fragmented?

■ *Tip: Create a central myth or origin story.*

■ Economy & Trade

- What resources are valuable?
- How do people earn a living?
- Are there markets or black markets?

■ *Tip: Choose key resources for each region.*

■ Daily Life & Flavor

- What do people eat, wear, or celebrate?
- What are homes and streets like?
- What's a typical day for different classes?

■ *Tip: Write a 'day in the life' for a citizen.*

■ BONUS PROMPTS

- ■ What's something only locals would know?
- ■ What ruins hint at lost civilizations?
- ■ What could destabilize your world overnight?
- ■ What lies beyond the known map?

■ Recommended Tools

- World Anvil – worldanvil.com
- Notebook.ai – notebook.ai
- Campfire Writing – campfirewriting.com
- Wonderdraft – wonderdraft.net