
Character Development Questionnaire

Originally developed by the management of Tower Mountain Holt; modified by Whitney Ware for use at the Kadanzer Weyr.

The following questionnaire is a valuable tool for helping you develop your persona characters. Or rather -- for helping your persona characters communicate to you new facets and depths of personality which you might have not been previously aware of. Avoid the pat/easy answers. If done properly, this questionnaire should take some time to answer, and a string of one-word or one-sentence answers means you haven't been putting enough effort into it. Note: I've gotten the most value out of this tool by approaching it as an interview tool, and from writing the resulting interview as a give-and-take session with a persona. How questions are asked, as well as what order they are asked in, can be based on what responses are given to the last question... As a writing exercise, go back at a later time and do another round, to see how the character may answer the questions differently.

1. Describe four things you like very much.
2. Describe four things you dislike very much.
3. How do you feel about the opposite sex, and sexual relations in general?
4. How do you feel about gambling?
5. How do you feel about alcohol?
6. What is your philosophy of life?
7. If you could have any tangible thing, what would it be?
8. Do you have any physical difficulties?
9. Did you have a happy childhood?
10. Describe what childhood event which most affected you.
11. How do you think others react to you as a person?
12. What kind of education have you had?
13. What are you proudest of?
14. What is your deepest fear?
15. How do you feel about food, and what kinds of food do you prefer?
16. What do you dream about?
17. What makes you angry? How do you react when you're angry?
18. What do you try hardest to avoid?
19. What are you most ashamed of?
20. What chores do you prefer, and what activities do you detest?
21. How athletic are you?
22. How methodical are you?
23. What is your usual approach to a problem?
24. What are your chief taboos?
25. Describe a situation where you feel you have behaved courageously.
26. Do you see yourself as a loving person?
27. How artistic are you?
28. How do you feel about money?
29. How do you feel about material things?
30. What are your plans for the future?
31. How idealistic are you?
32. How realistic are you?
33. How successful are you?
34. Name the four things you most often object to in other people.
35. Name the four things you most often object to in yourself.
36. How gullible are you?
37. How intelligent are you?
38. Do you believe that the end justifies the means?
39. How attractive are you physically?
40. Do you believe that there is anything worth dying for? What experiences led you to this conclusion?
41. What do you worry about most?
42. How do you feel about violence? Under what circumstances would you kill another sentient being, and how does killing others affect you?
43. What makes life worth living for you?
44. What is the difference between good and evil?
45. What kind of person would you most like to be?
46. What do you consider to be worth knowing?
47. How do you feel about the Weyr, and how it is run?
48. What types of entertainment you enjoy?
49. What are your favorite things to do on a restday?
50. What person do you think has had the most influence on you and your life?