



***SKELETON CREW***  
**CHARACTER/DRAMATIC ACTION PROFILE FORM**

This character/dramatic action profile form is a playwriting tool designed to assist the playwright(s) in the early development of a character, and then in defining that character's primary action through the play. The categories in the profile range from the practical (e.g., name and age) to the psychological (e.g., fears, secrets) to the metaphoric (e.g., "inner" animal). A completed profile will provide a thumbnail sketch, a starting point for the creation of a character, and a map of the character's main dramatic action throughout the drama. Just complete and print out a copy for each character you need to create.

**BASIC CHARACTER IDEAS:**

Character's Name:

Gender and Age:

Physical Attributes:

Distinctive Traits:

Family:

Habitat/Dwelling:

Education/Background:

Occupation:

Relationship to the Group/Institution:

Structural:

Psychological:

Key Personal Relationships:

Rival:

Ally:

Authority Figure:

Chief Wish:

Greatest Fear:

Secret:

First response in an emergency:

What animal do you associate with the character: i.e., if this character were an animal what would it be?

**DRAMATIC ACTION IDEAS:**

What is the character's ordinary daily life like; what is their routine?

What circumstance is making the character's life different (difficult and/or special) at the start of the play?

a) How does this circumstance affect the character's general relationship to the group or institution?

a) How does the character feel about this circumstance?

b) What is the character doing about it?

What is the most important long-range goal in the character's life?

a) What are they doing to achieve that goal?

b) How is the special circumstance (#2 above) affecting the character's behavior regarding their goal?

What or who is in the way of or keeping the character from their goal?

What or who is helping the character reach the goal?

Does the character get what they want, in the short or long term?

a) How does the character resolve any problems that have arisen due to the "special circumstance?"

b) Have these immediate events helped or hindered the character in achieving their greater goal?

How has this experience changed the character?

How do their key relationships change/evolve during the play?