

Brainstorming a Created World



Compared to an existing or even an historical world, an invented world is a much larger exercise in creation. Ensuring that all of your facts and factions flow together logically ends up being a kind of research project that crosses geography, history, economics and more.

But fear not. As long as you address the basic bones of your created world, many of the facts will be assumed by your reader. For example, if your created world opens with a queen on a throne, most readers will extrapolate a general feudal system including courtiers, vassals, knights, etc. It's only when your world differs from the general archetype that you need to be explicit in your details—and those are the ones that make worldbuilding fun. Let's start with the basic bones of your world in the S.P.R.I.T.E. model and then continue with questions designed to identify what makes your world unique.

1. Brainstorm the societal structures of the world you're creating.

Try and be specific to where the majority of your story takes place.

Social	Political	Religious
Intellectual	Technological	Economic

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Where does the belief system fit into the political system or power hierarchy?

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How are historical figures or events taught and perceived?

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How advanced have they become? Does technology create a divide between classes or factions?

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How does the land and geography affect food and trade? Are there unique challenges to living here?

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