We begin with an exercise in observation and description. In this session, you will have only five (5) minutes with each of the objects on the table before you. The form below is to help you record information about each object. You will not complete the entire form for each object. Don’t worry; completion is not the object of this exercise. Rather, your observations will become the basis for further discussion about what you might want to learn more about this type of object or item, and how would you find those answers.

What is this item or object? Please describe it in general terms.

What is it made out of? If multiple materials, list as many as you can identify here.

Describe its dimensions, size, or format

Is there a date or dates? Where are they found? If yes and you can read them, please list it/them below.
Does the object include illustrations? If yes, briefly describe them here.

Can you see writing on this object? If yes, what language and style is it?

Are there personal names and/or specific places associated with this item, either on a title-page or elsewhere? If yes, list as many as you can here.

What was this item or object probably used for?

Do you have other observations that aren’t addressed above?