**Given Circumstances**

(derived by Spencer Duncan from “The Given Circumstances: everything that delineates of defines the special world of the play” by The University of Vermont)

**Actor Name:**

**Character Name:**

**Play:**

**Playwright:**

***On the back of this paper, please write answers to the following questions:***

**Exposition:**

1. What action has taken place before the play begins?

**Geographic Location:**

1. Where is the exact location of the play/scene?
2. What is that location’s climate?

**Time:**

1. When is the play/scene set? Give the date, year, season, and time of day.
2. What about the date is significant?

**Economic Environment:**

1. What is your character’s relationship to wealth, poverty, and/or class?

**Social Environment:**

1. What are the morals and social institutions under which your character lives?

**Political Environment:**

1. What is your character’s relationship to the form of government under which they live?

**Religious Environment:**

1. What are your character’s religious/spiritual beliefs?
2. What religious/spiritual beliefs are held by your character’s society or family?

**Polar Attitudes:**

1. What beliefs does your character hold that are in direct opposition to the world in which they live? This creates conflict, which creates dramatic action.