



Unit I Defining Terms

Cultural Processes in Action Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

This exercise will help you discover your ideas about folklore and explore the complexity of **folk**, **popular**, and **elite cultural processes**.

Directions:

- Read the items below and decide which are studied by contemporary folklorists, then answer **yes** or **no** in Column 1.
- Indicate whether you think each is a product of **folk**, **popular**, or **elite** cultural processes by placing an **X** in the correct columns on the right. You may think that some belong in more than one category. If so, place an **X** in all appropriate columns.
- How difficult is it to determine what cultural processes are at work?

Do Folklorists Study? Put <i>Yes</i> or <i>No</i> on Left		Folk	Popular	Elite
Y	1. Animal tales told by the Koasati Indians	X		
	2. Jokes such as "dumb blonde" jokes told by college students			
	3. Graffiti in restrooms			
	4. Initiation rituals on oil rigs			
	5. Building Mardi Gras floats			
	6. River baptism in the Baptist Church			
	7. Attending a Louisiana Philharmonic Symphony concert			
	8. Your grandmother's stories about her childhood			
	9. Your uncle's songs about the Vietnam War			
	10. Catching and cooking crawfish or making hot water cornbread			



11. Building oyster boats			
12. Tai chi			
13. Auctioning livestock			
14. Rockabilly music			
15. Gospel music			
16. "Double Wedding Ring" quilt			
17. Vietnamese food			
18. Listening to Louisiana folklorist Nick Spitzer's "American Routes" show on public radio			
19. Jump rope rhymes chanted by children			
20. Teenagers' scary stories such as "The Hook"			
21. Wooden toys made by patterns from <i>Popular Mechanics</i> magazine			
22. Clementine Hunter's painting "Cotton Pickin' Time"			
23. Garth Brook's "Friends in Low Places"			
24. An architect-designed log house built by a construction firm in 1990			
25. Historical accounts of the Civil War written in personal diaries			
26. St. Joseph's Day altars			
27. Email computer virus warnings			
28. Exhibit of Sarah Albritton's paintings at an LSU gallery			
29. Students' locker decorations			
30. Rap music			