



PART I

Personal Object & Memory

What object did you bring and why? Tell us something about the history of this object. (where it came from, what it's made of)?

What kinds of memories do you have of this object? How was it talked about, used, or displayed in your family? How do those memories make you feel?

What did you learn about your family, generation, or nation through this object?

Identification Through Objects & Histories

How is this object connected to your idea of "home"?

What lessons or stories does this object carry that tell us something about:

- History
- Social relationships
- Politics
- Culture
- Environment

If this object could speak, what would it say about what it has endured, witnessed, or carried?

Subterranean Inquiry

What parts of this object's history remain unseen, buried, or unspoken?

What has been lost, obscured, or erased in its movement across time and place?

How does studying this object unearth or uncover these histories?

Relational & Collective Mapping

How does your object connect to other objects in the room across time, place, or experience?

Embodiment & Responsibility

What responsibility do you hold, as the current bearer of this object or story?

How would you like the story of this object to be passed down to or shared with others?

PART II

These are not fixed identities but conditions of ground—formed through layering, pressure, neglect, and care. In this reflection, the work is not simply to label, but to ask:

- What has been buried here?
- What conditions allow something to take root and endure?
- What is choking growth?
- What needs excavation, clearing, or tending?

Questions for collective sharing

- Based on its history, which “ground” does this object or its associated story most closely align with (good ground, thorny ground, stony ground, hardened ground)?
- Why do you place the object in that category?
- Does this classification feel fixed, or has the object moved through multiple “grounds” over time?
- What does this object reveal about what has been broken, displaced, or denied?
- Based on its classification, what conditions would need to change for this object/story to move toward “good ground”?
- What forms of care, memory-keeping, or acknowledgment are required to move toward justice?

Good ground (Green status): This ground is stable, tended ground where depth allows for growth, endurance, and transformation. This object is associated with good memories of belonging, care, and/or nurturing community.

Thorny ground (Grey status): This ground is layered terrain where growth is choked by accumulation, distraction, and inherited systems. This object evokes struggle, is a witness to difficult times, to lost possibilities and lost or repressed opportunities.

Stony ground (Orange status): This ground is rocky and unstable and inhospitable. Conditions where there is initial receptivity but no depth to sustain pressure. This object represents hope or joy that was ultimately crushed, promises broken.

Hardened Ground (Red Status): This ground is closed and impenetrable. Compacted terrain where nothing can enter, take root, or be retained. This object evokes extreme sadness, lament, and even despair.