

# Role Cards for Younger Players.

The 'Tourism Game' was originally designed for a 16-19 year old audience. However, it has now been modified so that it may be used with younger students. The new version of the game is played in exactly the same way as the original, and uses the same 'Background Information', but the language used for the information on the 'Role Cards' has been simplified.

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## The Government

You are the government of Latasica. You have to decide whether to support the new tourism development. You want your country to become rich, but you will have to listen very carefully to what the people of your country say before you make your decision. If you decide to go ahead with the project, you will have to spend lots of money on building a new airport and new roads so that the tourists can move around easily. To pay for this you will probably have to cut back on spending on health and education. But, maybe in the long run it will be worth it because the tourists will be spending lots of money in your country.

One thing that worries you is that the company who will own the new tourist development is from abroad. They will want to take most of the profits away from Latasica to pay their shareholders in their own country.

You have a very difficult decision to make because your country owes billions of dollars to foreign banks. Latasica has depended heavily on the money it earned from coffee exports in the past, but this has never been enough to repay your debts. Maybe tourism is the answer. Some people say that the income from tourism is more reliable than from coffee. Others say that big tourist companies can't be relied on, because they will move away if their profits are not high enough.

You will have to listen carefully to what everyone says, and make what you think is the best decision for the people of Latasica.

## Airtravel PLC

You are the managers of a big tourism company. You want your company to make as much profit as possible.

Luxury holidays are the most profitable, and you are keen to expand into this area. Latasica seems like an ideal location for you to set up a new development. Very few tourists go there at the moment and you will be able to market it as an 'unspoilt' holiday destination. If you can persuade the government to go ahead with the development, you would be in a position to make a lot of profits for your company. This could mean big pay rises for you.

For the development to be successful, the government of Latasica will have to invest in a new airport to get your customers in and out of the country. You will also have to fly in lots of supplies for them — Scotch Whisky, Coca-cola, cornflakes, etc. They will also have to pay for new roads. At present, the roads in Latasica are in a very poor condition. It is very difficult to get around, and this would put a lot of your customers off coming to Latasica.

## **Ambrian Business Community**

You are the business community in Ambria, the biggest city in Latasica. You will have to think about whether the new tourism development would be good for your businesses. You have worked hard over the years to make a very good living for yourselves and you want to be sure that the new development would not harm your businesses, and your profits!

Tourists will pay higher prices for the things that you sell than local people, so you can expect to make lots of money selling local crafts, souvenirs, food and drink, etc. The tourism industry could make you and your country rich.

If the new development goes ahead, there will be lots of work for people in the building industry. You are worried that the building companies will pay high wages and that you will lose all your best workers. You would have to pay higher wages and this would eat in to your profits. However, there are lots of people with no jobs in Latasica, and every day it seems more and more people from the countryside arrive in Ambria. The new arrivals will work for low wages, they are just happy to have any job, and they don't worry too much about poor working conditions.

Latasica owes billions of dollars to foreign banks, and the government says that the new development would help them to pay these debts off. However, the government has promised many things in the past and have not always come good on them.

## Coffee Farmers

You make your living by growing coffee on hilly land that your family has rented for many years. You have to work very hard and although you know you will never be rich, you like working for yourself and making your own decisions.

In the past few years, the government has been spending less money on healthcare and education. This is because Latasica owes billions of dollars to foreign banks. This worries you because you want your children to have a good education, and for you, your families and your elderly relatives to have hospitals and clinics where they can get good medical treatment. If the new tourist development goes ahead, the government will have to make more cutbacks on healthcare and education services to pay for new roads and a new airport. Already, you have to pay a fee for some of these services that used to be free. You are worried that you will have to pay more for them in the future.

Some tourists already come to Latasica, and they pay high prices for local goods. If there are more tourists, prices might go up even more, making your life harder.

However, there might be lots of new jobs in the tourist industry, and some of your family could work there. This would help you a lot as you can't depend on getting a good price for your coffee all the time.

## Ambrian Fishing Community

You make your living fishing off the coast and selling the fish you catch at the local market. You land your boats on the beach and hang your nets out to dry there. This method of fishing has been going on for many years in Latasica.

If the new tourism opportunity goes ahead, you might be able to make more money. The few tourists who already come to Latasica pay high prices for some types of fish. If there were more tourists, you would be able to sell more fish at these high prices. However, there may be problems.

You have noticed recently that you have to travel further and further to catch your fish. You think that if more people want fish that the fish stocks will decline and that you will have to travel further still. You have also heard that the government will not allow you to use the beaches as you always have done. Tourists like clean beaches and wouldn't want to have fishing nets spread out all over them and ugly, rusty fishing boats everywhere. The tourists would also want to go waterski-ing and sailing. This would disrupt your work.

You are also worried that divers might damage the coral where most of the fish feed. This would also mean fewer, smaller fish for you to catch.

In the short term, you would be able to make more money from the tourists than you can by selling your catch to the locals. Maybe, you could earn enough money to buy a bigger, better boat, or maybe you could find a new job.

## Arable Farmers

You grow a variety of crops to feed yourself and your families on land that you rent from a landlord. What you have left over, you take to the market in Ambria where you sell it and buy the things that you cannot produce yourselves. The most important thing that you need is fertiliser, but in recent years this has become more expensive.

Life is hard for you, especially when your crops don't grow very well, but you seem to be able to manage somehow.

The government says that there will be lots of new jobs in the tourism industry. You have always been farmers and don't want to learn a new job.

You have heard a rumour that your landlord is going to sell off the land you live on to make way for the new tourism development. You don't know what you would do if this happened. Even if you could find a new farm somewhere, you know that the new development would need lots of water for swimming pools, showers, watering lawns, etc. Sometimes, water is already in short supply and you need lots of it to water your crops.

You are very worried that you will not be able to feed your family if the new tourist development goes ahead.

## Shanty town dwellers

You live in the slums on the outskirts of Ambria. You moved to Ambria from the country because you couldn't get a job there. Things aren't much better in the city! Since you got here, you haven't had a proper job and you find it hard to get enough money to survive.

You are not sure about the new tourist development. On the one hand, it will mean lots of new jobs, and you might be able to earn money from the tourists — shining shoes, guiding, selling crafts on the beach, that kind of thing. Maybe you could get a job building the hotels.

The building jobs would only last until the building work was finished and you think that the other work would only last for the tourist season.

The other problem is that more people might come to live in Ambria, and so it would be harder to get work.

The few tourists who already come here already cause problems. They can pay higher prices for goods, and so the price for everyone goes up. The tourists will only eat the best fruit and vegetables, so what's left for everyone else isn't very good.

## Nomadic Herders

You live a very simple life, moving around the countryside looking after your animals. You move because you have to, the land you live on isn't very good. You have to find fresh pasture for your animals from day to day, week to week. You know which plants are good to eat, and which ones make good medicine. You also hunt wild boar, and you kill any pumas that attack your animals. Life has been this way for centuries, no one can say how long. You don't damage the land, you know that if you do that your way of life will end.

Recently, people in uniforms, calling themselves the government, have been trying to stop you from using the land as you always have done. They say that the elephants must be protected as they are an 'endangered species'. But your people have never harmed the elephants. It is the farmers who are fencing off the land who are doing the harm. Sometimes they shoot with guns at the elephants.

Now the government wants to make a big area of land 'reserved' so that the wild animals can be protected. You will not be allowed to wander there. You cannot understand this because you have always respected the land and the plants and animals that are found there.

What gives these people in uniforms the right to tell you what to do? Who are these people who call themselves the 'government'? You and your people have lived on this land for all time. You don't want these people telling you what to do. **They have never done anything for you in the past!!!**

## Animal trust

You are an organisation, based in Europe, which wants to protect endangered wild animals.

You have heard that the government of Latasica are going to set aside a large area of land as a game reserve. You think this will be very good for wildlife. Some of the wild animals in Latasica have been under threat in recent years. You think that the game reserve would be good for pumas, wild boar and elephants because nobody will be allowed to hunt them.

You are worried that there will be lots of tourists in the game reserve. You know from other reserves that too many tourists disturb the animals and any building in the reserves isn't good for the animals' habitat.

On the other hand, the government of Latasica and Airtravel has promised money to help with breeding programmes for endangered species in the reserve.

You would like this to happen, but you need to be sure that the animals are properly protected. Their welfare always comes first.

## Worldcare

You are an organisation, based in Europe, which wants to protect the environment and to see that development is good for all people, rich and poor.

You are very worried about the new tourist development in Latasica. You know that Latasica owes billions of dollars to foreign banks, but you are not sure that the people of Latasica will see any benefit from tourism. You think that the government has not thought enough about damage to the environment, if the new development goes ahead. There are three things that worry you.

1. Fish stocks are already low, and any more fishing would make this worse.
2. Tourists need lots of water. Already there are water shortages in the summer. Local farmers will not have enough to water their crops and local people will not have enough clean water for bathing, cooking and drinking.
3. Tourists also cause lots of problems with litter and waste disposal.

You have seen developments like this one in other countries. Very often young people leave school and end up selling crafts to the tourists.

Similar developments in other countries have sometimes only lasted a few years. The tourists want to go to 'unspoilt' places. You are concerned that this development might not be sustainable in the long term.

## Elderly People

You are worried about the effect the new tourism development would have on Latasica. Already traditional values and customs are in danger. Young people are too easily led by foreign ideas. The voice and the wisdom of the old are not as respected as it once was.

The young people might move away from home to work in the new industry. If this happens - who will look after you when you are too old to look after yourselves. There are no old age pensions in Latasica, and your savings might not be enough to keep you. You need medicines, but the government is now saying that they are going to spend lots of money on new roads and an airport.

Tourists don't respect the local culture. They are impolite and walk around half-naked, even in the temples! This would never have happened in the old days.

Probably worst of all is that they want to see 'traditional' ceremonies. What were once sacred religious ceremonies are now being performed, almost every week, as if they were pantomimes.

The government says this is progress. But you have seen in the newspapers and on television what progress has meant in rich countries. Families break down and there is crime and disorder everywhere. You don't want this so-called 'progress'.

## Young People

You want things to change. You don't want to do the jobs that your parents and grandparents did. You think that there will be great opportunities in the new tourism industry.

If things stay as they are, you will end up in a dead-end job, maybe working from morning to night on a coffee farm. The work is hard, the hours long and the pay is terrible.

The tourism industry would give you a chance to earn good wages. If you could get a job in one of the hotels, Airtravel would train you. You might even get promotion and the chance of working for Airtravel in another country. It is your dream to travel to another country.

Even if you can't get a job in one of the hotels, you could make a living by showing tourists around, showing them all of the best sites and quietest beaches. You could buy crafts and sell them to the tourists. Then you'd be your own boss!

You would have to leave school, but you don't much like going anyway. Besides, who needs school if you're just going to end up picking coffee beans? You could earn more in a day selling things to the tourists than in a whole week of picking coffee.