Prompt Template for Generating Day 1 Observability Training (Markdown Format)

& Purpose

This prompt is used to instruct a GPT model (4.0, 4.5, or fine-tuned variants) to generate **structured**, **diagram-enhanced**, **incident-aware** SRE training content on the Three Pillars of Observability: **Metrics**, **Logs**, and **Traces**.

Use this in your GPT UI as a full pasteable prompt. All variables marked like {{SECTION}} or {{VIDEO_LINK}} are to be filled manually or by scripting.

Prompt Start

You are an experienced SRE instructor writing a Day 1 training module on observability for an audience of beginner to intermediate DevOps engineers. This training must:

Required Characteristics

- Be structured by the **Three Pillars**: Metrics, Logs, Traces
- Include **Mermaid diagrams** per section to illustrate flows and architecture
- Provide a realistic production incident story per pillar (a.k.a. "horror story with happy ending")
- Include Python code samples for each pillar
- Offer tiered learning objectives for: Q Beginner, 🕸 Intermediate, Q Advanced/SRE
- Clearly indicate where curated YouTube videos should be inserted
- Provide actionable, non-generic, step-by-step explanations
- Use consistent Markdown formatting, emoji tier tags, and section breaks
- Encourage humor or empathy when describing real-world issues

Prompt Structure

☆ 1. Introduction

🕸 Introduction: Observability 101

- Explain observability using the "Observe, Test, Evaluate, Take Action" framework
- Clarify how observability differs from monitoring
- Use a visual metaphor: observability as a diagnostic triage room
- Mermaid Diagram: Three Pillars Flow → Detection → Resolution
- 🍙 Incident Story: An alert was firing; logs were unclear; metrics saved the day
- Material YouTube: {{VIDEO_LINK_INTRO}}}

1 2. Metrics

Metrics: The Quantified View

- @ Beginner: Counters, Gauges, Histograms with Prometheus
- 💲 Intermediate: RED method, custom metrics, visualization
- ♀ SRE: Alert tuning, cardinality concerns, data pipeline issues
- Mermaid Diagram: Metrics flow from Flask → Prometheus → Grafana
- ✔ Code Example: Prometheus + Python Flask
- 🌢 Horror Story: Cardinality explosion brought Prometheus to its knees
- ♥ YouTube: {{VIDEO_LINK_METRICS}}

ී 3. Logs

🗗 Logs: The Narrative Thread

- @ Beginner: Log levels and basic logging
- 🕉 Intermediate: Structured JSON logs, log aggregation
- ♀ SRE: Querying logs for trace IDs, correlating error chains
- Mermaid Diagram: App → FluentBit → Elasticsearch → Kibana
- **ℰ** Code Example: Python + structlog integration
- 🌢 Horror Story: Grepping for errors for 4 hours because no one added request_id

★ 4. Traces

🐒 Traces: The Request's Journey

- @ Beginner: Spans, trace IDs, visual timelines
- 🕸 Intermediate: Adding tracing to Flask with OpenTelemetry
- ♀ SRE: Context propagation across microservices
- Mermaid Diagram: Request spans from API → Service → DB
- Code Example: Flask + OpenTelemetry + Jaeger
- 🔘 Horror Story: 5s checkout traced to a forgotten microservice timeout

5. Pillar Integration

🔊 Integrating the Three Pillars

- Show how metrics, logs, and traces correlate via trace_id
- Mermaid Diagram: Full flow including Prometheus, Kibana, Jaeger
- 🔗 Code: Python Flask app emitting all three observability signals
- 🔍 Tip Box: Link dashboards using shared metadata (e.g. trace_id)
- ♥ YouTube: {{VIDEO LINK INTEGRATION}}

6. Hands-On Tiered Challenges

```
## 

Hands-On Labs
■ Beginner: Instrument Flask with Prometheus metrics
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Intermediate: Add JSON logs and build Kibana queries
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SRE: Correlate a trace from Jaeger with matching logs and metrics
- Bonus: Inject a bug and trace it across the stack
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7. Real-World Incident Stories

Diagram Policy

- Diagrams must use proper Mermaid syntax
- Always include at least one diagram per major section
- Use quotes around node labels with
 , : or special characters

Markdown Format Rules

- Emojis for tier: 🔍 , 🝪 , 💡
- Code blocks use syntax highlighting (```python)
- Tables for comparisons where possible
- Use real timestamps and structured labels in log examples

(2) Invocation Summary

Generate a detailed, visually rich Markdown document teaching the Three Pillars of Observability. Each section must include:

• Code example (Python/Flask)

- Mermaid diagram
- Horror story with fix
- Learning objectives per tier
- YouTube placeholder

The goal: real training that's **ready for production onboarding** and not a lukewarm blog post.

Prompt ends here. Output must be Markdown only.