





characters unite



characters unite

WHAT IS CHARACTERS UNITE?





This card deck is part of USA Network's Characters Unite campaign to combat prejudice and discrimination, while promoting greater tolerance and respect. The cards feature questions that prompt players to share and discuss their experiences and perspectives to help shed stereotypes, recognize commonalities and accept differences.

For more information go to
charactersunite.com



characters unite

HOW TO USE THE CARD DECK



Characters Unite Cards may be used by educators as flash cards to promote class discussion, as writing assignment prompts, or as an interactive game played in groups of 4 to 6 players. It can be part of the Characters Unite Activity Guide or used separately.

The guide and cards can also be downloaded at charactersunite.com



Card Suits

C Character

Share something about your background and culture.

A Assumption

Consider how you may view other people.

P Perception

Think about how other people may perceive you.

S Scenario

Imagine how you might act in a specific situation.



Game Guidelines



GOAL

The player who is the first to answer one card from each category in the deck wins.

PLAYERS

Game is played in groups of 4-6 players, with a full or half deck per group.



RULES

- The player whose last name comes first alphabetically starts the game.
 - Players take turns drawing cards in clockwise rotation.
 - Place deck face down in a draw pile.
 - Players have up to 2 minutes to answer each question. **Yes or No answers are not allowed.** Players should include as much detail as possible up to the time limit.
 - After a card is played, the player must lay their card face up in view of the other players.
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Gameplay Option #1



WHAT'S MY CHARACTER?

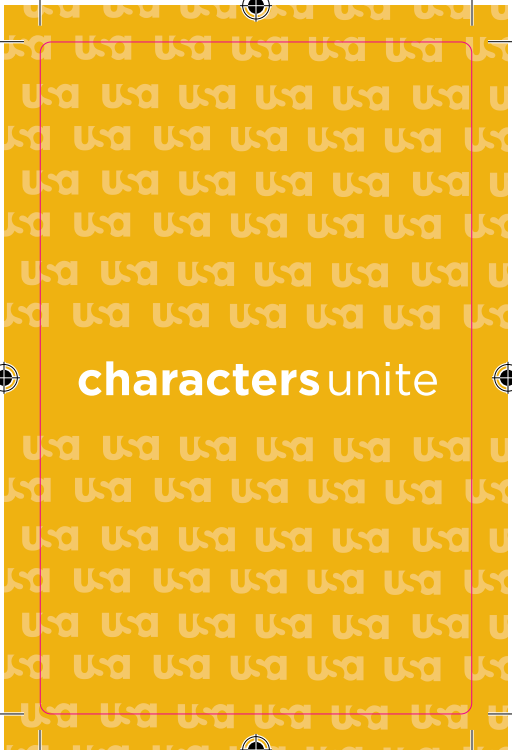
- Each player must play the card they draw unless they decide to “push” a card onto another player or “pass” on a card to discard it without answering. **Each player may push and pass only one card per game.**
 - If a player receives a push card, they must either play it during their turn or use their one pass option. No player may receive more than one push card per game.
 - The first person to play all four card categories wins the game.
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Gameplay Option #2

CHARACTER CHALLENGE

- All players start with one card.
 - The first player draws a second card and chooses one card to answer.
 - The player then pushes their unused card to another player.
 - With every turn, players must have two cards in their hand, either drawn from the draw pile or received from another player.
 - Each player chooses a card to answer and pushes the unused card to another player.
 - No player may pass a card to another player who already has two cards.
 - The first person to play all four card categories wins the game.
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characters unite



Scenario

Imagine that someone texts or emails a mean and untrue rumor about your sibling or friend. How would you suggest he or she respond?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine that someone makes an offensive remark about your friend's religion. Would you stand up for him or her? Why or why not?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine you have a close friend who makes a racist remark. How would you react and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine that you knew a false rumor about a person or group was being spread. Would you try to stop it from spreading? How?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine your friend tells you he or she is being textually harassed.*

What would you do to help him or her?

*to harass someone through text messages.

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine someone decides they don't want to be your friend before even getting to know you. How would you react?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine your friend invites you to visit their place of worship and they practice a different religion than yours. What would you say?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine you walk by a group of students physically or verbally bullying another student. Would you stop and intervene, keep walking, or go find help? Why?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine your teacher or coach tells you that you can't do something because of your race or ethnicity. How would you respond?

characters welcome. **usa**




Scenario

Imagine you're standing on a crowded bus and an elderly or disabled person gets on board and no one offers them a seat. How would you react?


characters welcome. **usa**



S Scenario



Imagine that your mom or sister finds out that she receives a lower salary than a male colleague with the same job and experience. What do you think she should do?



characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine that you weren't born in this country and don't speak the same language as most people around you. How would that make you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Scenario

Imagine a friend uses the word “gay” in a derogatory manner. How would you react?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Think of a time when you made a snap decision about someone you just met and then changed your mind as you got to know the person better. What did you learn from the experience?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Think about someone you know who is different from you. You don't have to say the person's name. What do you admire most about that person?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Pick a well-known celebrity. What stereotypes might people have about their character? How might our assumptions be wrong or damaging?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Does your
sexual orientation
affect the way
you view other
people who have
a different
orientation?
If so, how?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

If you could take
back one mean
thing you said or
did to someone
in the past,
what would it be
and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Have you ever realized that you have a lot in common with someone that you didn't expect to? What did you discover?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Was there ever a time that you stood up for someone who was different than you or someone stood up for you? Describe what happened.

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Have you ever
met someone who
helped you see
past a stereotype?
What did you learn
from him or her?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Is there someone in
your life you look
up to as a role
model for fighting
discrimination
and intolerance?
Who is it and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Was there ever a time you really wanted to speak your mind, but didn't think you could? Describe your experience.

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Have you ever
made friends with
someone even
though they didn't
speak the same
language as you?
What did you
learn from
the experience?

characters welcome. **usa**



Perception

Did you ever find
people who were
different and bring
them together?
What happened?

characters welcome. **usa**



P Perception

Have you ever
wanted to ask
someone about
his or her race or
ethnicity, but
were afraid or
embarrassed to ask?
Why or why not?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Describe a
stereotype
about your race,
religion or gender
that you would like
to challenge.

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Has anyone ever made an assumption about you just because of the way you look that wasn't true? How did it make you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Share a name
you've been
called - the good,
the bad, or the
ugly. How does
that name make
you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Is there a stereotype about you or your family you would like to clear up? Why or why not?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Have you ever felt
like a fish out of
water, like you
didn't belong?
How did it make
you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Have you ever been treated differently because of your race or ethnicity? If so, share your experience.

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Have you ever been treated differently because of your religion? If so, share your experience.

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Has your gender
ever worked to
your advantage
or disadvantage?
How did it
make you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Have you ever
been discriminated
against based
on something*
about you rather
than your merit?
Please explain.

*i.e. skin color, age, gender, sexual
orientation, religion, body type, etc.

characters welcome. **usa**



A

Assumption

Do you feel like
your circle of
friends is
stereotyped at
school? How
does this make
you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Have you ever
altered your
appearance to try
to change the way
people see you?
How did that
make you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



A Assumption

Do you ever have problems with a family member or friend because of something you can't control, like your personality, sexuality or gender? How do you deal with it?

characters welcome. **usa**



Assumption

Did you ever reject someone as a friend because you were scared of what other people would say?
How did it make you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Describe a tradition
your family has,
that you either
like or don't like.
Tell us why.

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Where were you
born? Where were
your parents and
grandparents born?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

What are you
most proud of
about your
heritage and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

How is your
behavior different
at home than it
is at school?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Describe what meal
times are like at
your house.

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

How many friends of a different race or nationality do you have? What have you learned from each other?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Did you ever have
a friend that other
people didn't
want you to have?
How did that make
you feel?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Have you made a positive difference in your friends' lives or in your community? How?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

What is one
thing you have
in common
with your friends?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

If you could learn
another language,
what would you
choose and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

If you could travel
to any country
in the world to
experience
another culture,
where would you
go and why?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

Do you consider yourself to be religious or spiritual in any way? If so, how do you express it?

characters welcome. **usa**



Character

If you were being interviewed by Oprah, what is the one thing you'd want the world to know about you?

characters welcome. **usa**