# Exceptional Fact: Components and Definition

An exceptional fact is a way of highlighting the rare characteristics of a particular entity within a larger group. It consists of three main parts:

**Entity of Interest:** The specific entity that possesses a rare characteristic.

**Context:** The larger group against which the entity of interest is evaluated or compared.

**Qualifying Attributes:** The specific traits or characteristics that distinguish the entity of interest from others in the context.

For every exceptional fact, the entity of interest stands out as one of the few, or the only entity within the context that exhibits a particular combination of the qualifying attributes.

**Example:**  
“Denzel Washington followed Sidney Poitier as only the second black to win the Best Actor award.” (abcnews.go.com)

* **Entity of Interest:** Denzel Washington
* This is the person we are interested in.
* **Context**: Best Actor award winners
* This is the group of people who have won the Best Actor award.
* **Attributes (Subspace):** Ethnicity
* These are characteristics or properties related to the people in the context.
* Specifically, we are looking at their ethnicity, which is one of the attributes.
* **Peculiar Value:** African American
* Denzel Washington has a unique or peculiar value for the attribute "Ethnicity" because he is African American.
* There are only two people in the context (Best Actor award winners) who share this unique value.

So, in simpler terms, we are focusing on Denzel Washington and the fact that among all the people who have won the Best Actor award, he stands out because he is one of the very few who are African American.