



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.





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.





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.





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**



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. 



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. 



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. 



Perception

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

characters welcome. **usa**



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**



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**



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**



Perception

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

characters welcome. **usa**



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**



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. 



Perception

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

characters welcome. **usa**



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**





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**



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**