



Our proposed idea for a new emoji would be one to depict the sport of pickleball. Pickleball is one of the world's fastest growing sports and, with over 4 million players, the fastest growing in the United States. Drawing off of concepts of tennis, pickleball, the state sport of Washington state as of 2022, is played in singles or doubles on a court smaller than that of a tennis court. Originally designed for old folks, the smaller court allows for easier movement, making the game less physically demanding than tennis. Barriers such as asthma, body deterioration, and other ailments don't pose as much of a problem on the pickleball court than they would on the tennis court. Pickleball is also has an easier barrier to entry for many prospective players as paddles are usually cheaper than tennis rackets and pickleball courts are easier to construct than tennis courts. Finally, pickleball is attractive because of its gender equitability, as professional men and women play in the same tour for an equal purse. It would be important to add a pickleball emoji because this sport provides a similar experience to tennis, while being accessible to a much larger population.

Chris Ottaviano, Jenna Doubleday, Zachary Wilson, James Clayton



What does your new emoji stand for?

Our new emoji represents someone that is tired and yawning.

How does it look like? Make a first draft of your emoji design?

Tired eyes, low eyebrows and an open mouth that is yawning.

How does it promote inclusivity or challenge homogeneous understandings of culture?

We wanted to encapsulate an emoji that represents a feeling that everyone experiences no matter the persons age, race or socioeconomic status.

Carsyn Gilmore and Mary-Kate Ayers



This emoji stands for a woman with the skin condition vitiligo. There is no current emoji that represents this condition or anything similar. The above image is the draft we created via the Canva generator. It promotes inclusivity by challenging societal standards of conventional beauty and celebrates individuality by not minimizing the representation of certain groups. It would be nice for those who do not fit into these Eurocentric beauty standards to have an emoji that looks like them.

Created by Anna Kate Armstrong and Gabi Pirozzi



The football emoji allows those who are fans of the sport to express their support freely through texting and other communication outlets. Football is a cherished American sport with a deep root in our culture. Just think of how our everyday life is affected once football season comes around. There is nothing else playing on TV, radio stations can't

help giving their listeners play-by-plays, and even grocery stores put game day snacks up towards the front to entice consumers. It surprises us that there is no preexisting football player emoji since the sport is incredibly popular. It is a very simple design with a basic emoji head with sunglasses, a foam finger, and a football helmet. The emoji would have variations of helmet color and/or logo so fans can represent no matter what team they're backing this season. We believe that this design is comprehensible even in the smallest font and it will be very popular during football season. If the emoji has logo and color variations then it will not only apply to NFL teams but users can use it to show support for their local school or university team. This emoji's main purpose is to allow us to come together and unite via a long-standing tradition. By **Eyman Sakr** and Regan Glass



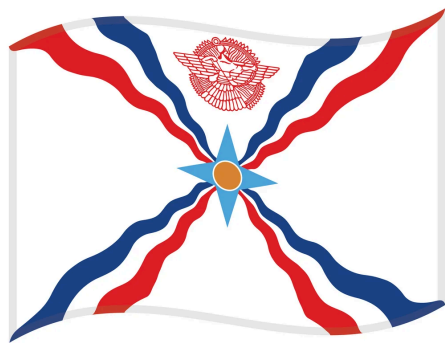
The new emoji that we've created will be called 'Solidarity,' and it provides a new way to think about inclusivity presented in the concept of an emoji. The solidarity emoji will be two hands, of different sizes and shapes, that has all colors the spectrum indicating the variations of skin color and tone in our world. They're clasped together, and interlocking with each other to show the pride and insurance that is shared, inextricably, between the two different people; in theory, though, the purpose of the new emoji would be to represent the different types of people, both small and large, both every different color, attempting to understand each other through simple gesture and intimacy. I believe that this emoji promotes inclusivity and challenges homogenous understandings of culture because of its portrayal. It makes us think about ways that we can bring more love and intimacy into this world, and the variations of the colors and sizes shows how important it is to be friendly to any type of person, regardless of color and stature. The emoji, solidarity, can be a vehicle for unity and a symbol for digital communication between different countries, areas, walks of life, etc. In order to adhere to Unicode's guidelines, the simplicity of our concept is paramount, and it ensures that our emoji is following the guidelines for the emoji's creation and progressions of its design. I enjoyed creating the idea for the emoji, because it's a simple concept that may go over a lot of peoples heads; the creation of these emojis are more important than what's on face-value, and making sure that no person is left out from the assimilation, cultural significance, and importance of an emoji is very important. By Richie Basile

Group members: Nick Tucci & Will Thompson



We chose to create an iced coffee emoji for ours. It would look like a clear cup with ice and coffee in it, with a straw. This promotes inclusivity, as not everyone drinks hot coffee. The current coffee emoji is a simple mug with steaming coffee coming from it. This doesn't even indicate a to-go coffee, which most college students drink. Our emoji design features a plastic cup,

so it can be brought anywhere. By including the iced coffee emoji into the set, it will allow different cultures to express their coffee drinking lifestyles in a less generalized way. For example, older generations typically drink hot coffee, while younger generations (especially students), tend to prefer iced-coffee. In the current set, the only way to represent an iced coffee would be to use the icecube emoji with the hot coffee emoji next to it. With our design, it will allow for the easier communication of ideas, as it would only take one emoji to express it, rather than two. We were honestly shocked that unicode didn't already include the iced coffee emoji, as it is so common in our culture. It is for these reason that we believe this emoji should be included.



Assyrian Flag
(Style: Noto Color Emoji)



Haylee Thompson and Dalia Akkila

Including the Assyrian flag emoji would ensure that Assyrian individuals are not only represented but also recognized as a people group and a culture. In recent years, a growing wave of videos has highlighted the struggles faced by individuals who identify as Assyrian, expressing a pervasive sense of underrepresentation in society. Despite a rich cultural heritage and a significant community that lives through Assyrian culture and traditions, many feel their history is overlooked in mainstream

education. This oversight has led to a collective desire for acknowledgment and visibility. Recognizing the significance of representation, there is a call to include the Assyrian flag as an emoji. This symbolic gesture aims to shed light on the existence of the Assyrian people and their vibrant culture. By incorporating their flag into the digital world, it becomes a powerful tool for asserting identity and fostering a sense of pride within the community. This move transcends the digital realm, signifying a broader societal recognition that goes beyond the confines of historical neglect. As conversations around inclusivity and diversity gain attention, acknowledging and embracing Assyrian culture through something as simple as an emoji serves as a step towards rectifying their history and ensuring a more equitable representation in the broader tapestry of human experiences.



Our new emoji stands for the way that we, as humans, are all important and valued in our own ways but we still might get angry, emotional, or lose our temper at times. The star shape represents the way that we all have our own way of thinking, that people may be different from each other, but our humanness is what connects us all together. Rather than the normal 'angry face' emoji, this emoji serves to expand on how it can be difficult to get along with others or find common ground concerning difficult topics, we can handle our emotions while also respecting other people.

Our emoji serves as a representation of the differences of each human being in our society. Stars, as a symbol, are often used to show uniqueness or special qualities. They are also used to show when something is important or significant in some way, and our star emoji aims to expand on this view. As well, the angry facial expression displays the wide range of human emotions; we are all bound to lose our cool at times or not get along well with others. This star emoji (with a face) symbolizes how we are all special and equally important in our own ways. By Courtney Tyndall, Bridget Walker



Our new emoji is a variation of the sleeping emoji, but it represents individuals with sleep apnea, which requires them to sleep with an oxygen mask on since their lungs do not automatically breathe when they fall asleep. We included an attachment of the sample emoji below. To make this new emoji, we used the software Adobe Express. First, we google searched PNG images of the current sleep emoji (with the z's) as well as a sleep apnea face mask (also known as a CPAC).

After the acquisition of these two images, we spliced them together within the Adobe software to create the new emoji which we have presented below. There are currently no emojis that look like this. Our new emoji makes sure that even those individuals that have sleep apnea are included. Due to them needing to sleep with a CPAP or Continuous Positive Airway Pressure machine, many individuals can often feel embarrassed about their sleep needs. This makes both traveling away from home and sleeping with a partner difficult. This emoji would aim to combat the underrepresentation of individuals with CPAP and would keep any potential jealousy over others "normal" sleep habits at bay in the emoji realm.

Names: Mason Baker, Cayden Bryner, Cooper Owen



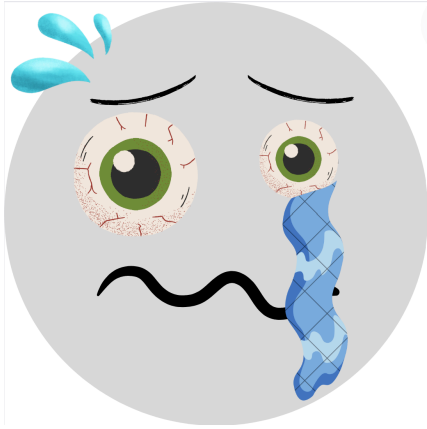
Our new emoji stands for individuals who have gotten injured and need a cast of some sort. There are emojis for crutches and wheelchairs, but none of the individuals are wearing a cast. This allows individuals who have been injured a way to represent themselves if they are not someone who requires a wheelchair/crutches. People may feel uncomfortable or dramatic using an emoji containing a wheelchair to describe their injury if it does not require it, yet they still should have a way to convey their pain. This also allows the user to not offend anyone who may require a wheelchair.

This emoji will have every skin color/hair texture. We just used the male emoji as a general prototype. Any gender will be represented. There will even be a option for picking out a cast color. This new emoji will allow individuals who have been injured, but not to the extent of needing a wheelchair or walker, to effectively describe their condition.

Created by: Georgia Brumfield, Olivia Leeson, Morgan Weintraub



For our emoji, we made both a male and a female walking with the assistance of a walker. While looking through the emojis we noticed that the walking/movement accessibility emojis were missing a key audience! While they had included those with both manual and electric wheelchairs and a mobility cane, there wasn't one with a walker. An emoji with a walker is inclusive of those who need assistance walking but aren't wheelchair-bound. By including this emoji we can empower those who use a walker and enhance user experience!



This emoji represents everyday mental distress with a humorous twist. Emojis can take on a lot of different meanings. This emoji is good at representing the feeling of daily stressors of life. For example, a coffee spill, failing a test or making it all the way back home just to realize you forgot your pickup order in Talley. Almost everyone can relate to the mental distress that this emoji visualizes. It can be used playfully or seriously to express how you are at the end of a line or on your last straw. For example, the prank trend of people saying

they put diesel in their non-diesel cars and the partner could use this emoji to express their stress over that statement.

How does it promote inclusivity or challenge homogeneous understandings of culture?

Everyone can relate to the feeling of this emoji. Many people put on a relaxed calm face, but on the inside someone may be feeling how this emoji looks.



Our emoji is mainly a picture of Jollof rice but we wanted to bring attention to the lack of African food emojis in the set of food emojis. Although we saw some kind of cultural representation of Asian food, we didn't see any representation of African food. Systemically white culture dominates the mass media form and through that dictates the lack of several cultures including African ones. Africa is a large continent with thousands of unique cultures that are

stigmatized constantly by mass media and its producers. This also contributes to the stereotypes held against Africa in the idea of a lack of technological advancement. Although Jollof rice is one type of African food, it is a broad representation of African cultural food as a base for many different variations and accompaniments. Including this emoji thus, opens a gateway for more African cuisine emojis to be included for more diversity of representation. Jollof also is broad in what it represents. It is primarily called that in West Africa but is referred to in other regions by other names. The emoji

however would allow for it to be unanimous across the entire region. Overall, including this emoji to the selection of emojis would introduce another diversity of culture that has been neglected in the mass media. By **Tae Park & Curt Wrenn**



Our new emoji represents the different skin colors represented in one heart. This is aimed to show that all people, regardless of skin color or race are united in one heart. It represents that all people across every ethnic line ought to love one another. In a world full of divisiveness, we believe that the Unicode Consortium should include this in the next year's emoji pack, as we can spread our love for each other's differences across various forms of writing technology. Instead of using the different colors currently represented in the emoji pack we can now incorporate one heart that represents everyone, from the palest skin tones to the darkest. We are one. Every culture is different but this new emoji could aid in homogeneity in a world where inclusivity is sparse.

Names- Casey Embler, Alexandria Cunningham, Yazmin Alcaraz, Luke Bullock



Our group is composed of Madison Chalmers, Matthew Cash, Allison Gilbert, and Allison Moxley. We created an emoji that represents feelings of both confusion and anger, mixed in one. This emoji could be used in situations where an individual is overwhelmed or in distress. We made the emoji yellow because we wanted it to be similar to other types of emoji facial expressions. We included two lines outside of the face to show confusion. It can portray confusion because it represents that thoughts are scrambled within the head and almost gives it a "dizzy" feel. The mouth can also portray confusion because they don't know what to say. The eyes are what give this emoji an angry feel. After going through the emoji encyclopedia, we found that there was an emoji that portrayed anger and one that portrayed confusion, but nothing that showed both. Our emoji promotes inclusivity because it is not intended for one audience instead it can be used by anyone. Everyone can use this because at some point we all feel confused or angry but there is no emoji to express just that. Our emoji is exposed to many different audiences because anyone can use it and it is typically a universal feeling everyone has experienced before.



Jada Allen, Riley Shaak, Bishop Fitzgerald, Anthony Carter

Our group decided to create an emoji based on mental health awareness. Our emoji is a brain with a heart center in it. We made the heart green because that is the color of mental health representation. We thought this would be a good challenge of inclusivity. While conversations about mental health have become more normalized, we believe there should be an emoji to go along with this conversation. The stigma surrounding mental health is something that must be addressed more openly in our current society. People are suffering in silence due to not enough recognition and support to have open conversations about the topic. Hundreds of emojis go along with sadness, happiness, confusion, etc, so having an emoji about the brain itself is a great start to this open conversation, and not too out there compared to what we already have. We recognize that this might be hard to get passed through the many levels of testing and approval needed to make it readily available to the public, but each step of the way there would be more conversation about mental health and what it means to each person. At the end of the day, this is our biggest goal and challenge to the creators. To not only speak, or show support, for mental health, but to recognize the impact this could have on those it would positively affect.

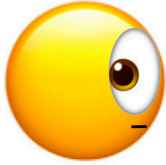


Our emoji is a sneaker that is on fire. It has several meanings including, running fast, shoes hurting one's feet, or shoes that smell. It could also be used in conjunction with the muscle emoji to signify a good workout. It could also be used with the tired emoji to signify that a person is worn out after working out or going for a run. Another example of what it could be used with is the car or tire emoji to convey that someone is driving fast. We think our emoji should be included in next year's emoji pack because it promotes inclusivity. It does this by having the ability to apply to several different

situations and any person. Its meaning is also subjective or up to the interpretation of the user. Our emoji is not restricted to the use of a certain group of people because it

has nothing to do with race, gender, or any other labels. The meaning of our emoji is also not too difficult to understand and fills a gap of an emoji that does not already exist. Working out is a common activity and almost everyone wears shoes every day, furthering the need for this emoji.

Samantha McCune, Victoria Pepper, Reem Hasan



Our emoji we designed is a representation of a side eye. It can be used as an expression for reaction to multiple instances found through text that are often out of the ordinary/weird. This design stands for the universal reaction/feeling of seeing something that makes you think “um alright”. It’s a very sassy emoji that can be utilized in many instances.

As for the Unicode’s selection criteria, this emoji hits all aspects. The emoji itself isn't very far off of previous emoji designs by Apple, which increases the likelihood of it being selected. Side-eye expressions can indicate skepticism, sarcasm, or humorous disbelief, all of which might be culturally specific. They are also frequently packed with cultural complexity. It recognizes and brings these many traditions into the realm of digital communication by using such an emoji. Overall, the emoji makes sense due to its familiarity. We all have had this feeling during a conversation.



Grayson Johnson, Aiden Bradley, Brianna Rode

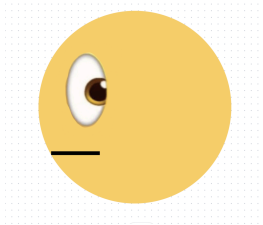
What does your new emoji stand for?

Margarita Glass

How does it promote inclusivity or challenge homogeneous understandings of culture?

Our group has ingeniously created a margarita emoji with the intention of promoting inclusivity and challenging homogeneous understandings of culture. We envision the margarita emoji as a symbol of celebration and diversity, drawing parallels between the numerous variations of margaritas and the richness of diverse individuals and cultures.

This emoji embodies the spirit of cultural fusion, emphasizing the beauty that arises when different elements come together, just as in the creation of a unique margarita. Our goal is to convey a positive and open-minded perspective, celebrating the shared human experience while being mindful of and respecting the unique aspects of each culture.



Generally speaking, it is used to highlight something the user wants to draw attention to—especially in dramatic or tense interpersonal situations. Alternatively, it could be an emoji that depicts shifty eyes or the side-eyeing gesture. Sometimes, when someone thinks someone is attractive, this emoji shows. This emoji would express annoyance, disbelief, or suspicion by indirectly looking out the corner of an individual's eye. It has been a well know facial expression that has been used a lot in today's conversation. This facial expression has gained recent popularity due to a Tik Tok sound that many users have used or heard of. The meaning of the emoji can change depending on the context of the message. It can also change with the use of other emojis with it. An example of this could be this emoji used with the peeking emoji. In this scenario, the message could display a feeling of bashfulness or nervousness. This promote inclusivity by allowing those to express this emotion via text, social media, or other form of communication. Most people experience this emotion that this emoji shows and by allowing this emoji to be an option for electronic devices it will help others connect with others.

Elizabeth Truong, Mackenzie Pearson and Katie Barrows



Kayla Walsh

Molly Jones

Our group has proposed to create emojis that represent Indian culture and food. For example, curry, gobi manchurian, tikka masala, and naan. For some, this is a staple of the diet while many in the United States are not accustomed to the vibrant flavors of India. As Americans, many of us are only used to consuming a narrow expression of cultures such as Americanized foods from Italy, Japan, China, and Mexico.

In Apple's emojis and the Encyclopedia, only one representation of a chicken stew is shown and this dish is up for interpretation. This chicken stew differs from many traditional Indian cuisines and therefore needs a specific emoji. The emoji we are proposing looks like chicken tikka, rice, and naan.

While many culturally significant dishes such as sushi, spaghetti, and bento boxes are representing other cultures, India remains underrepresented. The creation of the Indian food emoji would promote inclusivity of Indian culture as well as challenge the homogenous understandings of culture. Adding this emoji would allow for a broader scope of cultures to be represented as well as encourage Americans to venture outside of the same few cultures. A further positive impact could be that Indian-owned businesses could be supported more through creating more awareness of the vibrant flavors India has to offer.