



SECTION 4

POPULARITY



“And with an assist from me to be who you’ll be,
instead of dreary who-you-were... are...
there’s nothing that can stop you
from becoming popul-er...”

- Galinda

ACTIVITY

◆ POPULAR ◆

“You’ll be popular. Just not quite as popular as me!”– Galinda

When Elphaba arrives at Shiz University, she learns the value that is placed on popularity by her peers. In particular, Galinda is seen as the prime example of a popular student who is loved by her fellow students.

First, as a class, have your students define the word ‘popular’.

Then, have your students design a social media profile page for someone who would be considered popular at Shiz. This task can be completed using a printed template.

After designing their pages, have the students share their work with their class. Ask students to share what characteristics they included that might make someone popular at Shiz and why they included them. Would these characteristics be the same in a different context?

Have your students identify characters in WICKED who would not be considered popular.

What makes them different from the popular students at Shiz? Ask the students whether they feel the characteristics of these students should make them unpopular.

Ask the students how they feel the notion of popularity impacts on social relationships with their peers and how it affects social behaviour. Have your students reflect on the value placed on popularity. Should being popular matter more than being a good person?

