



SECTION 4

POPULARITY



The untold true story of the Witches of Oz

ACTIVITY

◆ UNPOPULAR PEOPLE ◆

*“When I see depressing creatures with unprepossessing features,
I remind them on their own behalf to think of celebrated heads of state or specially
great communicators. Did they have brains or knowledge?
Don’t make me laugh! They were popular! Please, it’s all about popular!
It’s not about aptitude, it’s the way you’re viewed,
so it’s very shrewd to be very very popular, like me!”*

– Galinda

In the song *Popular*, Galinda draws on the example of leaders or great orators and implies that their popularity was behind their success. However, there are examples of leaders throughout history who may have gained popularity during their time and did terrible things with their power. You may discuss with your students whether popularity makes someone a good leader. What qualities do make someone a good leader?

There have been times throughout history when figures have been unpopular during their lifetime and only found popularity after their passing because of their aptitude.

Have your students research and report back to the class about one such historical figure.

One such example is the now well-known artist, Vincent Van Gogh.

