



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS

#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS



# United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

Activities for Conversation classes



AUSTRALIAN  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ALLIANCE



Australian Library and  
Information Association



# BEGINNERS

Before this session, students will need to be shown how to access the library wifi on their devices.

## Introduction

Show symbol of UN. Do the students recognise it? Explain that 2018 is the birthday of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (English). Below are the words Universal Declaration of Human Rights translated into several languages:

<b>Arabic</b>	تدحيتملأا مملأا   ناسنإلا قوقحل يملأا نالاعإلا
<b>Simplified Chinese</b>	人权宣言
<b>Spanish</b>	declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos
<b>French</b>	déclaration universelle des droits de l'Homme
<b>German</b>	universelle Erklärung der Menschenrechte
<b>Japanese</b>	世界人権宣言
<b>Korean</b>	인권에 대한 보편적 선언

## Pre-activity practice

Practice these questions and responses:

What language do you speak?	I speak _____.
Where do you come from?	I come from _____.
Do you have a mobile phone?Y	Yes, I do/No I don't.

Use these images to teach vocab:

**Click on**      **type**      **arrow**      **scroll down**      **top left corner**      **play button**

## Activity

1. Connect to the library wifi on your device.
2. Go to Safari/Chrome/the internet browser on your phone.
3. Type in 70 years UN (if it doesn't work, here is the link: [www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml))
4. In top left corner, find the box with Filter by Language
5. Click on the arrow and scroll down to find your language
6. Click on the play button on one of the videos in your language and listen.

## Post activity:

At home, ask a family member to show you how to record you reading one of the articles.



## PRE-INTERMEDIATE

### Introduction

Show symbol of UN. Do the students recognise it? Explain that 2018 is the birthday of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (English).

### Pre-activity

Some words in English have the same sound but different spelling, like **write** and **right**. These are called homophones.

Some words have the same spelling, but have different meaning, like **right** and **right**.

### Match a meaning to the correct word

Word	Meaning
write	correct
right	A moral or legal entitlement
right	For directions or position
right	Use a pen or pencil to make marks on paper

In pairs make sentences using these different definitions of write and right.

Which right is being talked about in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights?

### Activity

1. Connect to the library wifi on your device.
2. Click on Chrome on your phone (if you don't have Chrome, use your internet browser).
3. Type in 70 years UN (if it doesn't work, here is the link: [www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml))
4. In top left corner, find the box with Filter by Language
5. Click on the arrow and scroll down to find your language
6. Click on the play button on one of the videos in your language and listen.
7. Find the article that is most important to you and practice reading it aloud in your language
8. If you would like to record yourself reading this article, click on the **RECORD YOURSELF NOW** button and follow the instructions.

### Post activity

In groups, discuss the article you chose and why.

Make a list of other homophones and homonyms in English.



## Introduction

Show symbol of UN. Do the students recognise it? Explain that 2018 is the birthday of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (English).

## Pre-activity

### Read this information about The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an international document that states basic rights and fundamental freedoms to which all human beings are entitled. The Universal Declaration was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948. Motivated by the experiences of the preceding world wars, the Universal Declaration was the first time that countries agreed on a comprehensive statement of inalienable human rights. The Universal Declaration begins by recognising that 'the inherent dignity of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world'.

It declares that human rights are universal – to be enjoyed by all people, no matter who they are or where they live.

The Universal Declaration includes civil and political rights, like the right to life, liberty, free speech and privacy. It also includes economic, social and cultural rights, like the right to social security, health and education.

The Universal Declaration is not a treaty, so it does not directly create legal obligations for countries.

However, it is an expression of the fundamental values which are shared by all members of the international community. And it has had a profound influence on the development of international human rights law. Some argue that because countries have consistently invoked the Declaration for more than sixty years, it has become binding as a part of customary international law.

**Make a list of 5 words that are new to you. Use Google Translate (or other translating app) to find the translation. Then write the meaning of the new word in English. You can also ask a friend or your tutor to explain the meaning.**

New word	Translation	Meaning in English

## Activity

1. Connect to the library wifi on your device.
2. Go to Chrome (or your internet browser) on your phone.
3. Type in 70 years UN (if it doesn't work, here is the link: [www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/udhr-video/curated.shtml))
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7. Find the article that is most important to you and practice reading it aloud in your language
8. If you would like to record yourself reading this article, click on the **RECORD YOURSELF NOW** button and follow the instructions.

## Post activity

### In groups, discuss:

- » the article you chose and why
- » should the Universal Declaration of Human Rights become a treaty, so it becomes legally binding?
- » if you could change anything about the Declaration of Human Rights, what would it be? Why?
- » The Universal Declaration of Human Rights have been described as "the highest aspiration of the common people". Are they impossible aspirations for humans to have?