

# Character and Life Skills

**Video Title:** Citizenship, Inside Out Series

**Lesson Title:** Your Global Citizenship

**Grade Level:** High School



## Project and Purpose

Students watch and discuss the Ted Talk by Hugh Evans: “What Does It Mean to be a Citizen of the World?” and create an action plan to create change around an important issue.

## Essential Question

How will YOU become a citizen of the world?

**Note:** This lesson can be extended into a long term social action project on global citizenship.

## Materials

- Access to Ted Talk: Hugh Evans: What Does It Mean to be a Citizen of the World? [www.ted.com/talks/hugh\\_evans\\_what\\_does\\_it\\_mean\\_to\\_be\\_a\\_citizen\\_of\\_the\\_world](http://www.ted.com/talks/hugh_evans_what_does_it_mean_to_be_a_citizen_of_the_world)
- Hugh Evans question slips (provided; cut apart before class)
- Chart, board, screen
- Writing tools and/or computer writing program
- Other materials as designated by project

## Procedure

1. Tell the students The United Nations Correspondents Association issues an award to a “Citizen of the World.” Ask students to explain what they think it means to be a “Citizen of the World.” Explain that they will watch a Ted Talk video by a man, Hugh Evans, dedicated to this very concept.
2. Watch the Ted Talk: *Hugh Evans: What Does It Mean to be a Citizen of the World?* [www.ted.com/talks/hugh\\_evans\\_what\\_does\\_it\\_mean\\_to\\_be\\_a\\_citizen\\_of\\_the\\_world](http://www.ted.com/talks/hugh_evans_what_does_it_mean_to_be_a_citizen_of_the_world)
3. After watching, break the class into small groups and give each group one of the Hugh Evans Question Slips to discuss for five to seven minutes. Everyone in the group should have time to share their thoughts and ideas; no one person should dominate the discussion in the small groups.
4. After the small group discussion, a representative will share the group’s thoughts with the full group and entertain questions.
5. When each group has shared, post the following question: How will YOU become a citizen of the world?
6. Hugh Evans said that in order to get into his concert, people had to earn a ticket: “Activism is the currency.” Explain that the first step in becoming a citizen of the world is to find a cause, identify an issue that you feel needs to change. Ask: What change do you want to see? As a group create a list of different causes and issues that are meaningful to them.



# Hugh Evans Question Slips

## Directions

Cut slips apart and give one to each small discussion group.

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What does Hugh Evans mean when he says, "The world's future depends on global citizens"?

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Hugh Evans says, "Issues become solvable when global citizens demand solutions from their leaders." Explain how Davinia's actions illustrate this point. Where else have you witnessed this to be true?

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What is "the ovarian lottery" and how does it affect citizens of the world?

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Hugh Evans mean says, "Community development should be driven by communities themselves"? Why?

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After holding his first Global Citizens concert in Australia, Hugh says they soon realized that "One-off spikes do not work." He realized that in order to change things, global citizens must work to make changes "systemic." What does "systemic" mean? How did he go about creating systemic changes?

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Hugh Evans tells us that most people don't act as global citizens because "they don't know how or they think their actions will have no effect." Based on what you saw and heard in the Ted Talk, list at least four things you could immediately tell the nay-sayers to counter these reasons.

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Hugh Evans quotes American politician Tip O'Neill (December 9, 1912 – January 5, 1994, 47th Speaker of the House) who said, "All politics is local." What does that mean? How should it influence how people act as global citizens?

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Hugh Evans says, "Citizenship means you have to act." Explain what that means for you as a citizen of the school, of the community, and of the world.

# Global Citizen Action Plan

1. What is the change you would like to see/the issue you would like to address?

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2. What organizations already exist that you could work with to affect this change?

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3. What are three things you can do to affect this change?

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4. Create a schedule/timeline/plan for your acts of global citizenship.

- What will you do? (see question #3)

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- When will you do each step?

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- How will you know when you have completed this step?

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5. As an example, Hugh describes how Davinia collected pennies AND wrote letters to and called her political leaders AND mounted a campaign on social media. How can you use action, letters and phone calls, and social media to advance your cause?

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