Re: Emoji Subcommittee Report Q1, 2022 UTC

From: Jennifer Daniel, on behalf of the Emoji Subcommittee (ESC)

Date: 25 January 2022

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1. Update on 15.0 🚦

The provisional emoji candidates that were recommended for Unicode 15.0 are listed in document L2/21-172 and at the time of writing, can be found here: https://www.unicode.org/emoji/future/emoji-provisional.html .

The committee does not recommend any changes to the emoji repertoire but does recommend some modifications to address public feedback, which are detailed in the next section of this report. Emoji 15.0 repertoire and properties will be finalized at the Q2 UTC meeting.

2. Public Feedback on 15.0 🗣

PRI #435 (Unicode Emoji 15.0 Provisional Candidates) and feedback: https://www.unicode.org/review/pri435/feedback.html.

Suggestions were made regarding names and representation (atomic character vs. ZWJ sequence) for better consistency with existing emoji. The committee agrees with the character name changes suggested by Charlotte Buff on Wed Nov 17 12:46:22 CST 2021 and Eduardo Marín Silva on Tue Nov 30 18:32:37 CST 2021, and recommends UTC approval of the following actions. The remaining PRI feedback relates to CLDR annotations and vendor designs, which ESC will forward accordingly.

Recommended actions for UTC:
Accept the following character name changes in candidate emoji for 15.0 Beta for three characters:

U+1FA76	GRAY HEART
U+1FACE	MOOSE FACE
U+1FADA	GINGER
U+1FADB	PEAPOD

to these new names:

U+1FA76	GREY HEART
U+1FACE	MOOSE
U+1FADA	GINGER ROOT

U+1FADB   PEA POD

Action Item for Ken Whistler: Update the pipeline, NamesList.txt, and UnicodeData.txt to reflect the three changed character names as listed in Section 2 of document L2/22-021, for Unicode version 15.0.

Consensus: Accept the change for provisional emoji candidate `U+1FABE BLACK BIRD` to be represented as a ZWJ sequence, `U+1F426,U+200D, U+2B1B`, rather than as an atomic character, for Unicode version 15.0.

Action Item for Ken Whistler: Update the pipeline, NamesList.txt, and UnicodeData.txt to remove `U+1FABE BLACK BIRD`, for Unicode version 15.0.

Action item for Ned Holbrook: Add the ZWJ sequence for BLACK BIRD, `U+1F426, U+200D, U+2B1B`, to emoji-zwj-sequences.txt, for Unicode version 15.0.

Action item for Ken Whistler: Correct the name of `U+1FADB` in UnicodeData.txt to PEA POD, for Unicode version 15.0.

Action Item for Rick McGowan: Respond to the submitters of the feedback in section 2 of L2/22-021 and point them to the document.

3. Other Public Feedback 🗣

The *Feedback routed to Emoji SC for evaluation* section of the *Comments on Public Review Issues* (L2/22-018) document includes the following public feedback:

3.1 Bug Filed

Date/Time: Thu Oct 14 10:43:00 CDT 2021
Name: John B
Report Type: Other Question
Opt Subject: New unicode character unclear?
Hello,
At the new emoji site, there is one listed:
https://unicode.org/emoji/charts-14.0/emoji-released.html
#16 is 1FAF1 200D 1FAF2 (left hand, zero width joiner, right hand)
-- I'd love to know what this final single emoji is, or if there is any information available about that. Is that a bug?

Recommended actions for UTC:

Action Item for Mark Davis and Ned Holbrook: Fix known bug in the tool for emoji

charts (see https://github.com/unicode-org/unicodetools/issues/96).

Action Item for Rick McGowan: Respond to the submitter that this is a known bug.

3.2 UTS 51 Comments

Date/Time: Mon Nov 8 15:04:37 CST 2021

Name: David Corbett

Report Type: Error Report

Opt Subject: UTS #51

What happens when an emoji_zwj_sequence overlaps a text_presentation_sequence? It is not clear what to do when a text presentation selector appears at the end of an emoji zwj sequence. For example, how should <U+1F408, U+200D, U+2B1B, U+FE0E> be rendered?

- The same as <U+1F408, U+200D, U+2B1B>
- The same as <U+1F408, U+FE0E, U+2B1B, U+FE0E>
- The same as <U+1F408, U+2B1B, U+FE0E>

UTS #51 says "A text presentation selector breaks an emoji zwj sequence, preventing characters on either side from displaying as a single image. The two partial sequences should be displayed as separate images, each with presentation style as specified by any presentation selectors present, or by default style for those emoji that do not have any variation selectors." Taken literally, that means <U+1F408, U+200D, U+2B1B, U+FE0E> is split into two sequences, <U+1F408, U+200D, U+2B1B> and an empty sequence, so the whole thing should be rendered the same as <U+1F408, U+200D, U+2B1B>. That is probably not what was intended.

Recommended actions for UTC:

Action Item for Mark Davis and Ned Holbrook: Review feedback from David Corbett [Mon Nov 8 15:04:37 CST 2021] and update UTS #51 as necessary.
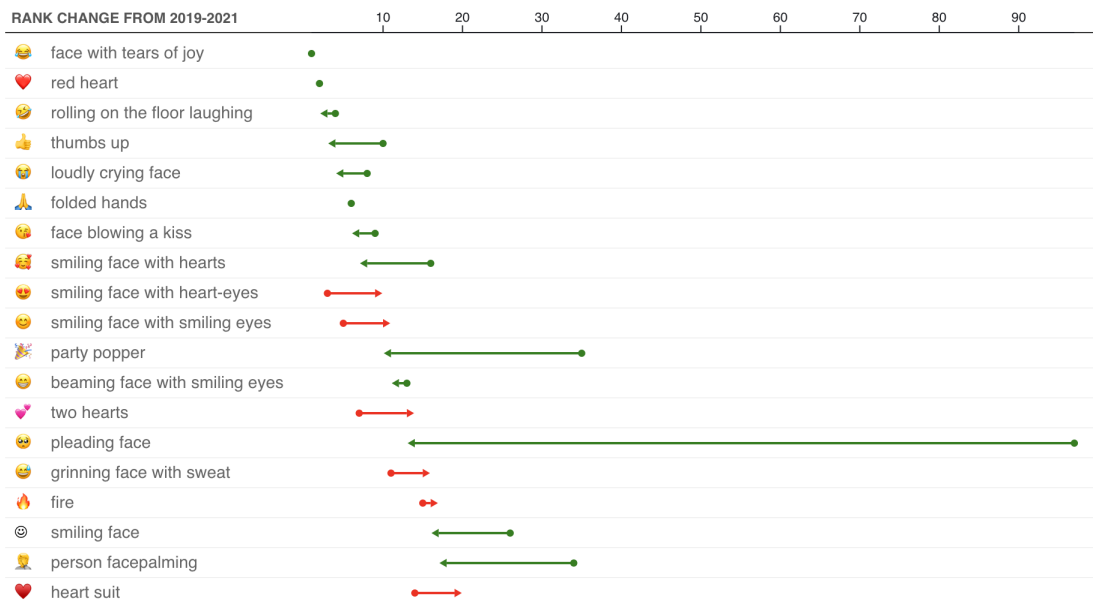
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4. Update on Emoji Use 📊

In December, The Emoji Subcommittee published emoji [frequency data and a tool](#) to [explore the numbers](#). This is the second time the subcommittee has published this data and intends on continuing to update in future years.

Most notably, frequency trends support the direction the ESC has been moving in — encoding more generalized and less specific emoji that encompass multiple uses. These emoji tend to be used exponentially more than other types.

RANK CHANGE FROM 2019-2021		10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
😂	face with tears of joy									
❤️	red heart									
🤣	rolling on the floor laughing									
👍	thumbs up									
😭	loudly crying face									
🙏	folded hands									
😘	face blowing a kiss									
🥰	smiling face with hearts									
😍	smiling face with heart-eyes									
😊	smiling face with smiling eyes									
🎉	party popper									
😁	beaming face with smiling eyes									
💕	two hearts									
🥺	pleading face									
😅	grinning face with sweat									
🔥	fire									
☺️	smiling face									
🤦	person facepalming									
♥️	heart suit									

5. [No Action Needed] Progress on stated goals 🏃 [L2/20-132](#)

ESC Guidelines around hand and face emoji L2/22-036
Per [Emoji usage data](#), Hands and Faces are some of the most frequently used categories of emoji. These two categories can be easily recognised and incorporated into online communication. There are, however, some challenges to writing a strong proposal for these categories. For example, there are seemingly infinite ways to contort your hand and face and meanings are not always easily tied to a single universal phrase.

This document provides an overview of what makes for a compelling proposal for a hand or face emoji, and links to other resources that can help us continue to receive strong and useful proposals in this category.