Face Holding Back Tears Proposal for Unicode 14.0

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(not a cognitive scientist nor a comics theorist ＿(‘’／)”

To: The Unicode Technical Committee
Date: November 16 2019
Revise: February 4, 2020

I. Identification and II. Images

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color Sample Image</th>
<th>Black and white Sample Image</th>
<th>Proposed Unicode and CLDR name</th>
<th>Possible CLDR English keywords</th>
<th>Closest Unicode Emoji</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Face" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Black and white" /></td>
<td>face holding back tears</td>
<td>Proud, tears, angry, sad, resist, hold back,</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Unicode" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

License

We certify that the images have appropriate licenses for use by the UTC.

III. Sort location

face-smiling

II. Selection factors — Inclusion

A. Compatibility

This emoji was on Samsung devices from TouchWiz Nature UX 2 to TouchWiz 7.1 but was later redesigned to conform for cross platform consistency.

Above: Samsung, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Twitter Facebook before redesign
Below: Samsung, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Twitter Facebook after redesign
B. Expected use

1. Frequency

Usage is expected to be extremely high given that the smiley face emoji are the most-used category of emoji overall and the following search results indicate this expression could perform well over-median.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>stop-cry</td>
<td>518,000,000</td>
<td>59,500</td>
<td>170,000,000</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td>See below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No-cry -marley</td>
<td>669,000,000</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>266,000,000</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td>See below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hold-back</td>
<td>3,080,000,000</td>
<td>11,600,000</td>
<td>513,000,000</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td>See below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No-cry - marley for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search

stop-cry for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search

hold-back for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search
2. Multiple usages
When humans feel the compulsion to cry there exists a great deal of tension before the tears fall (and sometimes never fall).
  ● People nearly cry ...
    ○ ... During heated conversations
    ○ ... Confronting someone they're angry with
    ○ ... In discussions about something important
    ○ ... At Funerals
    ○ ... At Sad movies
    ○ ... Listening to sad songs
    ○ ... When they are proud of someone

3. Use in sequences
This emoji can be used in combination with other facial expressions to indicate pride, sadness, anger, and fear.. A 2014 study published in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology* found that people who cry were more likely to experience a positive change in their mood if they were comforted by others around them.
  ● They were all so mean 😒 😞
  ● I did not want to cry in front of her 😞
  ● I just couldn’t stop the tears from pouring down! 😞 😞 😞
  ● Me: Before cute dog videos: 😞 Me: after cute dog videos: 😞

Can be used with non-face emoji, to indicate a range of emotions
  ● I’m so proud of you! 😞 😞 😍
  ● That is the most beautiful piece of cheese I have ever tasted 😞 🧈
  ● I tried to keep a straight face 😏 😏
  ● They were all so nice 😞 😞 😞 👍 ✨
  ● Don’t hold back 😞 🌊

4. Breaking new ground
This emoji fills an important gap in existing face options. It allows the user to exhibit that space before full on presenting their true feelings. Holding back tears – *before you cry*. Holding back tears – *out of fear*. Holding back tears - *because you are so proud of someone*. Because this emoji is a representation of a common physical action, is more likely to convey meaning to the broadest possible range of emoji users.
C. Image distinctiveness

A holding back tears emoji is distinctive compared to the existing 😞 emoji. Rather than depicting a face whose emotions have fully erupted, it conveys the struggle to not cry in the face of strong emotional upheaval. Thus, it betrays a desire for emotion mixed with the resistance to fully showing it. This provides an emotional nuance that is as yet unrepresented by emoji that use tears. Tears of joy is well covered but there are also tears of fear.

D. Completeness
n/a

III. Selection factors — Exclusion

F. Overly specific
No. This design is iconic of how you feel when you sigh. It is commonly depicted in pop culture, manga and in media as described in document L2/XXXX.

G. Open-ended
No, this is not part of a set of similar items.

H. Already representable
No.

I. Logos, brands, UI icons, signage, specific people, deities
Not applicable. There are no logos, brands, signage or otherwise among the proposed characters.

J. Transient
Not applicable.

K. Faulty comparison
Justification for encoding the proposed emoji does not depend on analogy with other emoji that were encoded only for compatibility reasons.

L. Exact Images
An exact image is not required.