

## ROBERT J. ACOSTA: TEACHER

In 1939, Robert J. Acosta was born blind. When he grew up, his love for education would touch every teacher and student in America.

Robert worked hard to live in a world that called a blind man handicapped. He knew he needed a good education. He finished high school and college. He earned degrees in English and social studies. Robert became a teacher.

Robert began groups for blind teachers and students. In these groups, blind teachers and students could reach out to one another and share their ideas. In 1968, the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce named Robert J. Acosta one of America's Ten Outstanding Young Men.

Robert did not stop there. He went on to start a group called the Future Teachers of America. Any student in the United States who wanted to become a teacher followed her or his dreams by joining Future Teachers. Little did they know that a blind man was leading the way.

## QUESTIONS FOR ROBERT J. ACOSTA: TEACHER

1. When was Robert J. Acosta born?

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2. Could Robert J. Acosta see when he was born?

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3. Name the degrees Acosta earned in college.

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4. When was Acosta named one of America's Ten Outstanding Young Men?

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5. What did Acosta become after college?

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6. What group did Acosta start after he was named one of America's Ten Outstanding Young Men?

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7. What one word best describes Robert J. Acosta?

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8. How did Robert Acosta feel about earning an education? Why do you think so?

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9. How would joining Future Teachers of America help a student who wanted to be a teacher?

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10. Why did Acosta begin groups for blind teachers and students?

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11. Write a title for the story. Use as few words as possible.

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12. How is teaching blind students like teaching sighted students? How is it different?

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13. In your own words, tell how Acosta's love for education touched every teacher and student in America.

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14. How does the story about Robert J. Acosta change your ideas about the blind? Why do you feel this way?

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15. The story said, "He (Robert Acosta) knew he needed a good education." Is this a fact or someone's opinion? How can you prove your answer?

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