

“I Have a Dream”
Part I
Summaries

Directions: Summarize paragraphs 2 (the one that begins “Five score”) through paragraph 11 (the one that begins “I am not unmindful...”) For each paragraph, your summary should be only one sentence long and should contain all of the paragraph's essential ideas. Paragraph 1 has been summarized for you as an example.

1. He is excited to be in Washington because he knows that the demonstration that day will be a historic event.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

Part II
Analogies (Metaphors and Similes)

Directions: Using any of the paragraphs that you summarized in Part I (paragraphs 2-11), find analogies that King uses in his speech. However, the numbers below do not mean that those are the specific paragraphs you must get them from. For each analogy, write the one thing that he is comparing on the left of the slash, and the thing he is comparing it to on the right of the slash. Include adjectives that modify either of the nouns that he is comparing, but keep the analogy to its most simple, broken-down form. Each analogy you write will almost always be a total of 3-4 words. Finally, under each analogy, write what the two parts of the analogy have in common. Your explanation should NOT be about civil rights or even African Americans. They should literally be about what the two nouns have in common. (Helpful hint to find metaphors: he compares an abstract noun to a concrete noun, giving the abstract noun qualities of the concrete noun)

1. flames / withering injustice

- what they both have in common: both flames and injustice burn or destroy

2. /

- what they both have in common:

3. /

- what they both have in common:

4. /

- what they both have in common:

5. /

- what they both have in common:

6. /

- what they both have in common:

7. /

- what they both have in common:

8. /

- what they both have in common:

9. /

- what they both have in common:

10. /

- what they both have in common:

11. /

- what they both have in common:

Part III
Audience

Directions: For each group listed below, who were a part of the audience during King's speech, find a quote from anywhere in the speech that shows that King is specifically reaching out to that group, or making them feel welcome. Explain how your quotes show those ideas as you believe necessary. If a group of the audience has an asterisk by it (*), you can explain how King includes/welcomes them without necessarily using a quote.

Whites:

Men:

Women*:

People from different regions:

People of different religions:

Well educated people*:

Less educated people*:

Part IV
Evaluation

Directions: King's "I Have a Dream" speech is regarded by many people as one of the greatest American speeches of all time. Having analyzed his ideas (pt I), his use of figurative language (pt II), and his awareness of audience (pt III), as well as any additional factors you might think of, give your opinion on the speech. Is it as good as so many people believe? If so, why? Is it overrated? If so, why? Be specific in your reasoning, and your argument should touch on at least two of the three parts that you have analyzed that were mentioned above. Write your answer below.

Overall opinion:

Reason 1 (relate to part I, II, or III) and how that affects/shapes your opinion:

Reason 2 (relate to part I, II, or III) and how that affects/shapes your opinion:

Additional reason(s) and how it/they affect/shape your opinion: