



# 'I Have a Dream' Speech

By: Janelle Cox  
M.S. in Education

History  
Grades 6-8



## Introduction

In March 1963, before a crowd of 250,000 people, one of the most famous speeches in history was delivered by Martin Luther King Jr. The "I Have a Dream" speech is recognized as a key moment in the civil rights movement. In this writing prompt, students will write a first-person point of view as if they were in the crowd during the iconic speech.

## Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.3](#). Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

## Materials Needed

- Paper and pencil
- [MLK's 'I Have a Dream' Speech](#)
- [Video of speech](#)

## Procedure

1. Hand out the transcript of Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech to students. Then, have students follow along as they watch the video of the speech.
2. Next, tell students for this writing piece they are to pretend they are a person in the crowd during MLK Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech. They are to write a first-person point of view about their experience as if they were in the crowd listening to the speech. Remind students to write in a clear, descriptive, and organized manner.

## Evaluation

Students will be assessed on how well they followed the guidelines for the writing prompt.