

# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the most important leader of the American civil rights movement. He helped unite a nation with his powerful speeches and use of non-violent protests. His 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech is one of the greatest in human history. King's efforts to end racial discrimination earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

King was born in 1929 in Atlanta. His father was a reverend and so King had a religious upbringing. He graduated from college with a degree and a Ph.D. in religious studies. King went to India to visit Gandhi's family. He was inspired by Mohandas Gandhi's success with non-violent resistance and saw it as a "potent weapon" in America's struggle for civil rights.

King was instrumental in achieving many successes in ending segregation laws. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott which ended racial segregation on public buses in Montgomery. He realized that non-violent protest would attract extensive media coverage of the struggle for racial equality. His campaigns soon elevated the Civil Rights Movement to be the most important issue in American politics.

King helped organize the famous Million Man March on Washington in 1963, where he spoke to the nation appealing for racial harmony. His non-violent protests met with success as Congress passed civil rights laws (1964) and voting rights laws (1965). King's friendship with President John F. Kennedy also helped his cause. King was assassinated on March 29, 1968. The day is now a national holiday in the USA.

249 words  
Flesch Kinkaid 10.4

**SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

*Paragraphs 1 and 2*

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. unite          | a. racism         |
| 2. protests       | b. battle         |
| 3. discrimination | c. demonstrations |
| 4. inspired       | d. powerful       |
| 5. potent         | e. join           |
| 6. struggle       | f. motivated      |

*Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 7. instrumental  | g. mission    |
| 8. realized      | h. wide       |
| 9. extensive     | i. understood |
| 10. appealing    | j. important  |
| 11. cause        | k. killed     |
| 12. assassinated | l. asking     |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article.

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. leader of the American civil          | a. discrimination              |
| 2. He helped unite a nation with         | b. with non-violent resistance |
| 3. end racial                            | c. with success                |
| 4. King had a religious                  | d. laws                        |
| 5. inspired by Mohandas Gandhi's success | e. his powerful speeches       |
| 6. ending segregation                    | f. in American politics        |
| 7. attract extensive media               | g. for racial harmony          |
| 8. the most important issue              | h. upbringing                  |
| 9. he spoke to the nation appealing      | i. rights movement             |
| 10. His non-violent protests met         | j. coverage                    |

## LISTENING GAP FILL:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the most important \_\_\_\_\_ American civil rights movement. He helped \_\_\_\_\_ his powerful speeches and use of non-violent protests. His 1963 "I Have a Dream" \_\_\_\_\_ the greatest in human history. King's efforts to end racial discrimination \_\_\_\_\_ Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

King was born in 1929 in Atlanta. His father was a reverend and so King had a \_\_\_\_\_. He graduated from college with a degree and a Ph.D. in religious studies. King went to India to visit Gandhi's family. He \_\_\_\_\_ Mohandas Gandhi's success with \_\_\_\_\_ and saw it as a "potent weapon" in America's \_\_\_\_\_ rights.

King was instrumental \_\_\_\_\_ successes in ending segregation laws. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott which \_\_\_\_\_ segregation on public buses in Montgomery. He realized that non-violent protest would \_\_\_\_\_ media coverage of the struggle for racial equality. His campaigns soon elevated the Civil Rights Movement to be the most \_\_\_\_\_ American politics.

King \_\_\_\_\_ famous Million Man March on Washington in 1963, where he spoke to the \_\_\_\_\_ for racial harmony. His non-violent protests met with success as Congress passed civil rights laws (1964) and \_\_\_\_\_ (1965). King's friendship with President John F. Kennedy also \_\_\_\_\_. King was assassinated on March 29, 1968. The day is now a national holiday in the USA.

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the most important *leadership / leader* of the American civil rights movement. He helped *unite / untie* a nation with his powerful speeches and use of non-violent protests. His 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech is one of the *great / greatest* in human history. King's efforts *to / for* end racial discrimination earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

King was born in 1929 in Atlanta. His father was a reverend and *such / so* King had a religious upbringing. He graduated from college with a degree and a Ph.D. in religious *students / studies*. King went to India to visit Gandhi's family. He was inspired *from / by* Mohandas Gandhi's success with non-violent *resist / resistance* and saw it as a "potent weapon" in America's struggle for civil rights.

King was *instrumental / instrument* in achieving many successes in ending segregation laws. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott which ended racial segregation on public buses in Montgomery. He *reality / realized* that non-violent protest would *attractive / attract* extensive media coverage of the struggle *for / to* racial equality. His campaigns soon elevated the Civil Rights Movement to be the most important issue in American politics.

King helped organize the *famous / fame* Million Man March on Washington in 1963, where he spoke to the *nationality / nation* appealing for racial harmony. His non-violent protests *saw / met* with success as Congress passed civil rights laws (1964) and voting rights laws (1965). King's friendship with President John F. Kennedy also helped his *because / cause*. King was assassinated on March 29, 1968. The day is now a national holiday in the USA.

## SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

### *Paragraph 1*

1. powerful esecepsh
2. use of non-violent rsptstoe
3. the greatest in anumh history
4. readne him the Nobel Peace Prize

### *Paragraph 2*

5. King had a useoirigl upbringing
6. a deeerg and a Ph.D.
7. He was espidnri by Mohandas Gandhi's success
8. America's esgltrgu for civil rights

### *Paragraph 3*

9. ndqnie segregation laws
10. attract extensive emdai coverage
11. racial iqyleuta
12. the most important uises

### *Paragraph 4*

13. King helped oirzngea the famous Million Man March
14. appealing for racial yhaonrm
15. King's nprfhdsiie with President John F. Kennedy
16. now a laoantin holiday in the USA.

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) of the greatest in human history. King's efforts to end racial discrimination earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.
- ( ) college with a degree and a Ph.D. in religious studies. King went to India to visit Gandhi's family. He was inspired
- ( ) nation with his powerful speeches and use of non-violent protests. His 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech is one
- ( ) equality. His campaigns soon elevated the Civil Rights Movement to be the most important issue in American politics.
- ( ) laws. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott which ended racial segregation on public buses in Montgomery. He realized
- ( **1** ) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the most important leader of the American civil rights movement. He helped unite a
- ( ) King was instrumental in achieving many successes in ending segregation
- ( ) that non-violent protest would attract extensive media coverage of the struggle for racial
- ( ) King was born in 1929 in Atlanta. His father was a reverend and so King had a religious upbringing. He graduated from
- ( ) by Mohandas Gandhi's success with non-violent resistance and saw it as a "potent weapon" in America's struggle for civil rights.
- ( ) rights laws (1964) and voting rights laws (1965). King's friendship with President John F. Kennedy also helped
- ( ) his cause. King was assassinated on March 29, 1968. The day is now a national holiday in the USA.
- ( ) King helped organize the famous Million Man March on Washington in 1963, where he spoke
- ( ) to the nation appealing for racial harmony. His non-violent protests met with success as Congress passed civil

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. of American rights leader the civil movement

---

2. with helped his unite powerful a speeches nation He

---

3. Dream " " I speech Have His a 1963

---

4. by Gandhi's He inspired Mohandas success was

---

5. struggle rights for America's civil

---

6. for struggle the of coverage media equality racial

---

7. important in politics most issue American the

---

8. famous the organize helped King March Man Million

---

9. to racial the harmony nation he appealing spoke for

---

10. in The now holiday USA is national the day a

---

## MARTIN LUTHER KING DISCUSSION:

### STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Martin Luther King?
2. Would you like to have met Martin Luther King?
3. What would you like to know about Martin Luther King and why?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING DISCUSSION:

### STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Martin Luther King?
2. What questions would you like to have asked Martin Luther King?
3. What would his answers have been to those questions?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING SURVEY:

Write five questions about Martin Luther King in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Martin Luther King. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MARTIN LUTHER KING POSTER:** Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Martin Luther King. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

**4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Martin Luther King. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he did every day and what he thought about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to Martin Luther King. Ask him three questions about his life. Tell him how important he is in today's world. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Martin Luther King expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. unite          | a. join           |
| 2. protests       | b. demonstrations |
| 3. discrimination | c. racism         |
| 4. inspired       | d. motivated      |
| 5. potent         | e. powerful       |
| 6. struggle       | f. battle         |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 7. instrumental  | g. important  |
| 8. realized      | h. understood |
| 9. extensive     | i. wide       |
| 10. appealing    | j. asking     |
| 11. cause        | k. mission    |
| 12. assassinated | l. killed     |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. leader of the American civil          | a. rights movement             |
| 2. He helped unite a nation with         | b. his powerful speeches       |
| 3. end racial                            | c. discrimination              |
| 4. King had a religious                  | d. upbringing                  |
| 5. inspired by Mohandas Gandhi's success | e. with non-violent resistance |
| 6. ending segregation                    | f. laws                        |
| 7. attract extensive media               | g. coverage                    |
| 8. the most important issue              | h. in American politics        |
| 9. he spoke to the nation appealing      | i. for racial harmony          |
| 10. His non-violent protests met         | j. with success                |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.