

HUM 100 Project 1 Artifact Chart

Although you will work on various assignments throughout the course to support you in completing this assignment, this project is not due until Week 6.

Artifact

<p>What is your chosen <b>artifact</b>? Include a link to or a picture of the artifact.</p> <p>"I Have a Dream" by Martin Luther</p> <p><a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/I-Have-A-Dream">https://www.britannica.com/topic/I-Have-A-Dream</a></p>	<p>I. <b>Describe the artifact</b> in detail. For instance, how would you describe it to someone who could not see it?</p> <p>Description of the Artefact</p> <p>"I Have a Dream" was a speech recited by Martin Luther which was delivered in 1963. This was during a march to Washington. I would describe this speech as a call for freedom and equality, which led to one of the most defining moments in the United States. It is one of the most iconic speeches that defined the history of America. More than 250,000 people gathered for the march to Washington to protest racial discrimination and encourage the passing of civil rights. Before Martin Luther appeared to the crowd, there were speeches and musicals before his main speech.</p> <p>Earlier in his speech, Martin Luther referenced Abraham Lincoln's excerpt and</p>
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then addressed the crowds about the emancipation proclamation, which was aimed at ending slavery. In his speech, he insisted that African Americans were not free and were "crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination."

As the speech ended, Martin Luther felt that the message was not getting message home as required. Thus, he compelled Mahalia Jackson, a musician, and implored her to tell the crowds about the dream. This was a theme that he had used in previous events and had been advised not to use in Washington.

- II. Choose **elements of the artifact** that you believe are most important to how you experience it and explain why. For instance, what particularly catches your senses or makes you want to keep experiencing it? Does the choice of medium impact your experience?

One of the elements of this speech was the boldness portrayed. Dr. King had a strong sense of urgency to challenge terrible treatment and unjust laws that African Americans were subjected to due to institutionalized systems of discrimination. This prompted King to take bold actions that included initiating marches, boycotting buses, and sit-ins . The speech communicated this sense of urgency and boldness in telling off

inaction and government leadership for failure to act on racism among other social issues facing the American society. Furthermore, Martin Luther called out other stakeholders such as clergy leaders when they were silent on the injustices directed to African Americans.

Another element of Luther's speech was culture. Culture made Martin Luther's movement remarkable and demonstrated diligence in ensuring clarity around the norms that he expected from himself and his team. Martin Luther did this because he knew the importance of the cultural movement, and it was critical in his quest to accomplish their goals. Thus, King spent more time talking about culture and even trained his followers to embody culture in fighting for their cause.

The third element demonstrated in Luther's speech was belonging. When we look back at the issues Martin Luther was fighting for, one unified thread that linked them together was belonging. King did not just want the people to exist but wanted them to feel like they belonged to the environment, spaces, and the world. In this speech, he painted clear pictures of what belonging looked like. He says, "I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood...I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

#### Assumptions about your artifact

- III. State your opinion on what you believe is the **purpose of this artifact** and the success of the creator in achieving the purpose. For instance, what message do you believe the creator is trying to express and is that message successfully expressed?

This speech aimed to raise awareness about some of the issues African Americans were facing regarding civil rights and pointed out why discrimination and racism should be eradicated. The speech was so important in different ways, such as bringing greater attention to the civil rights movement, which had been ongoing for many years. When he completed his speech, Martin Luther was known by many people than before, pushing Congress to pass the civil rights act faster than expected.

Martin Luther's campaign for civil rights played an essential role in ending voting rights and segregation. Thus, his speech created a cultural shift in race issues but not all in the United States. In the south, race equality had been secured in law, and statues of leaders who fought for equality remained while others were added. Besides, the confederate flag was still flown in both private and public buildings. This was a clear indication that changing civil rights and ending voter suppression and discrimination was not enough.

- IV. Discuss how the artifact **reflects the culture** (or context) in which it exists. Be sure to address what aspects of culture have relevance for this artifact: politics, history, religion, social perceptions, technology, media, education, and so on. In other words, how do the artifact and its culture interrelate? For instance, how would a particular form of body modification reflect the urban culture in which you encountered it?

King's focus on civil rights was a push for legal equality. At the same time, this seemed understandable and was an immediate priority. It had a downside because after equality was won, the movement ended. Besides, dynamism, coherence, direction, and strengths that powered its major successes were lost. Also, racism is not yet defeated as it

continues to plague black Africans lives. Despite changing the social perceptions of discrimination for some time, the impact of Martin Luther is still felt despite the shortcomings. Historically, through his movement, King was able to do away with jim crow laws, which were a misdemeanor to black lives. His speeches still have a significant impact on shaping the political landscape in America since African Americans can now vote exercising their democratic rights.

- V. Use the artifact to discuss how acts of creative expression **impact** and are impacted by the people and situations surrounding it. How might the artifact and the person who created it have impacted each other? For instance, how might the geographic location where the artifact was made, the materials used to create the artifact, the medium of the creative process, or the environment where the artifact is displayed influence the creator's life or future creative work? How might the artifact and the culture or context in which it was created have impacted each other? For instance, does the artifact add to the understanding of the culture from which it was created? What contributions does it make to continuing a dialogue about that culture and the importance of its artifacts?

The impact of "I have a dream" is that it envisioned a world where people would not be judged by their skin color but their character. Martin Luther King led movements of civil rights that embraced nonviolent protests. His vision of civil disobedience and equality changed the world of the oppressed, who, in this case, were African Americans.

Martin Luther had a belief that all people were created equal and should enjoy the same privileges and rights. One of the most critical lines in this speech was that he hoped his children would not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. He was empowered by Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolent protest philosophy and ingrained a civil disobedience notion in the followers.

VI. **Questions: Pose questions** you have after thinking deeply about this artifact. What more do you want to know regarding:

The relationship between human **culture and expression**

1. What was the culture like before the civil rights movement and the fight against discrimination?
2. How could culture influence Martin Luther King's dream in the later years?

Your **personal assumptions** about artifacts of this sort and why they exist

1. Why did the fight for civil rights and discrimination end with Martin Luther? Weren't any of his followers who came out string vocally to express their concerns on civil rights and discrimination?
2. Did Martin Luther become a celebrity after his speech, or was he still a celebrity even before? How many events had he organized before the "I have a dream" speech?

How **your values** have shaped and are shaped by your expression and that of others

1. What was the impact of the civil rights movements on the political environment of America? Did it have more influence on African Americans but the general population of America?
2. Would the impact on discrimination rights have the same effects today when faced with the "Black Lives Matter movement" and issues regarding George Floyd Death?

The relationship between the possible **intent** of the creator and your **interpretation** of its meaning

1. Did Martin Luther only focus on African Americans due to the atrocities they were going through?
2. Did Martin Luther intend someone else to continue with his zeal and girth to fight for civil rights after he was gone?

VII. Speculate on how you would go about **answering these questions**. For instance, what sorts of things would you study about these kinds of artifacts and their contexts that might begin addressing these questions?

I would conduct my research on the author's life before the civil movement. More so, I would seek expert opinions and analysis of the speech. I would take time to find more information about Martin Luther from historical documentaries and books. I would also seek national libraries' records on the impact of the speech on the participants and the overall civil movement in America. Besides, I would also find more results on the address that I have not captured or recorded before.