



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Writing Prompt 2018

Living the Dream for All: Every Day in Every Way

Writing Task:

In a speech given in 1963, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “The ultimate test of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy” (www.thekingcenter.org).

What personal choices do people make each day that bring Dr. King’s dream alive? Research and/or document an example of an individual (past or present) who chose or chooses--despite any inconvenience or challenge—to act in a way that brings Dr. King’s vision for a peaceful and fulfilled life for everyone to reality.

Write a narrative non-fiction essay in which you tell this person’s story for a magazine feature on “Champions of Dr. King’s Dream,” showing how the person you select represents the theme *“Living the Dream For All: Every Day in Every Way.”*

“I Have a Dream”: <https://www.archives.gov/files/press/exhibits/dream-speech.pdf>

Checklist for your writing:

- Refer to the California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, Writing Standard 3.
- Have a clear purpose and maintain your focus on the topic.
- Use evidence from interviews, printed sources and/or from other appropriate, grade-level sources.
- Use a variety of transitional words, phrases and clauses.
- Use vocabulary that fits your audience and purpose.
- Grades 4-6 need to **provide a list** of sources to give credit for the information; Grades 7-12 should **cite sources** and include a bibliography page.
- Turn your writing in to your classroom teacher who will then register you online and upload your school’s winning essays.

For more information, please contact:

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