

Influential Speeches Through Time



Throughout history, there have been moments where individuals have had to deliver important speeches to influence and motivate their audience. We have examined speeches from highly influential individuals and moments of historic significance.

Winston Churchill delivered his famous 'we will fight them on the beaches' speech in the House of Commons in 1940 to raise awareness of a potential Nazi invasion, but to also maintain hope and determination.

Martin Luther King intended in his infamous 'I have a dream' speech to encourage social reform and equality.

Emmeline Pankhurst fought for equality between men and women and **Emma Watson** reminded a more modern audience that there is still work to be done.

Despite being delivered in very different contexts, by different people with different purposes, all of the speeches have similarities and by studying this, we can pinpoint what makes rhetoric effective.

Authoritative	Commanding and self-confident; likely to be respected and obeyed
Influential	Having great influence on someone or something.
Rhetoric	The art of persuasive speaking.
Oasis	A fertile spot in a desert, where water is found.

hyperbole	Exaggeration plays on the emotions, heightens description
repetition	Aids memory, emphasises the important ideas
syntactic parallelism	A form of repetition- but of whole phrases/ sentences- not just words- aids memory. e.g. "We shall fight them on the beaches, we shall fight them on the landing grounds."
modals-	presents an idea, point with varying degrees of authority- can signal fact or opinion; also can provide choice. Might, will, may etc
direct address /inclusive address	establishes/ develops a connection with the listener/ reader- personal involvement- sense of responsibility/ unity/ separateness
Antithesis	juxtaposition of two opposing ideas (positive/ negative) together to highlight difference/ show outcomes. E.g. "One small step for mankind, one giant leap for humanity."
rule of three/ triad	memory/impact is enhanced by grouping key ideas in threes

