

how to cite mlk i have a dream speech

how to cite mlk i have a dream speech is a common query for students, researchers, and writers who want to reference one of the most iconic speeches in American history. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech delivered during the 1963 March on Washington remains a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement and is frequently cited in academic papers, essays, and presentations. Proper citation of this speech ensures academic integrity, allows readers to verify sources, and enhances the credibility of the work. This article will provide detailed guidance on how to cite the MLK "I Have a Dream" speech in various popular citation styles, including APA, MLA, and Chicago. Additionally, it will cover tips for citing the speech both as a standalone document and when accessed through different mediums such as books, websites, or video recordings. Understanding the correct citation format will help users accurately incorporate this historic speech into their work. The following sections will address citation formats, examples, and best practices for referencing this landmark speech effectively.

- How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in APA Format
- How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in MLA Format
- How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in Chicago Style
- Special Considerations When Citing the Speech
- Examples of Proper Citations in Different Formats

How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in APA Format

APA style is widely used in the social sciences and requires specific elements when citing speeches. When citing the "I Have a Dream" speech by Martin Luther King Jr., it is important to include the author, date, title, and source of the speech. Since this speech was delivered on August 28, 1963, the date of the speech is essential. If the speech is accessed from an online source or a book, the citation should reflect that medium accordingly.

General Format for APA Citation of a Speech

The general APA citation format for a speech is:

- Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of the speech [Description]. Source.

For the MLK speech delivered in 1963, the citation would look like this if referencing the speech as a transcript or recording:

Example Citation in APA

King, M. L. Jr. (1963, August 28). *I have a dream* [Speech transcript]. National Archives.

If the speech is accessed on a website or in an anthology, the citation should include the URL or book details accordingly.

How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in MLA Format

MLA style is commonly used in humanities disciplines and emphasizes the author, title, container (such as a website or book), and publication details. When citing the "I Have a Dream" speech, MLA requires the speaker's name, the title of the speech in quotation marks, the title of the container (if applicable), and the date.

General Format for MLA Citation of a Speech

The general MLA format for citing a speech is:

- Speaker's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Speech." Title of Container, Date of Speech, Location.

If the speech is accessed online, the citation should include the URL or database name.

Example Citation in MLA

King, Martin Luther, Jr. "I Have a Dream." 28 Aug. 1963, Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.

If accessed from an online archive or video, the citation can be expanded to include the website and access date.

How to Cite MLK I Have a Dream Speech in Chicago Style

Chicago style offers two documentation systems: notes and bibliography, and author-date. For citing speeches, the notes and bibliography style is often preferred. It includes detailed citation information in footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography entry.

General Format for Chicago Citation of a Speech

In notes and bibliography style, the footnote format for a speech usually contains:

- Speaker's Full Name, "Title of Speech," location, date.

The bibliography entry will have a similar format with slight adjustments.

Example Citation in Chicago

Footnote: Martin Luther King Jr., "I Have a Dream," speech, Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1963.

Bibliography: King, Martin Luther Jr. "I Have a Dream." Speech, Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1963.

Special Considerations When Citing the Speech

Citing the "I Have a Dream" speech requires attention to several factors depending on the medium of access and the citation style. It is important to note whether the speech is cited from a transcript, a video recording, a book, or a website. Each medium may require additional citation elements such as editors, publishers, URLs, or access dates.

Citing from a Video or Audio Recording

If the speech is accessed as a recorded video or audio file, include the format in the citation. For example, in APA, add [Video] or [Audio recording] after the title. In MLA, indicate the container such as the website or platform name.

Citing from a Book or Anthology

When the speech is included in a book or anthology, the citation should credit the editor, book title, publisher, and page numbers. This applies across APA, MLA, and Chicago styles, ensuring proper attribution of the source material.

Examples of Proper Citations in Different Formats

Below are examples of how to cite Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in APA, MLA, and Chicago styles across different sources.

1. APA from a Website:

King, M. L. Jr. (1963, August 28). *I have a dream* [Speech transcript]. National Archives.

2. MLA from a Book:

King, Martin Luther, Jr. "I Have a Dream." *The Essential Civil Rights Reader*, edited by Deborah Willis, New Press, 2003, pp. 225-228.

3. Chicago from a Video:

Martin Luther King Jr., "I Have a Dream," video, directed by ABC News, August 28, 1963.

Correctly citing the MLK "I Have a Dream" speech requires adherence to specific style guidelines and careful attention to the source medium. By following the formats outlined in this article, writers and researchers can ensure accurate and respectful citation of this historic and influential speech.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I cite Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in APA format?

In APA format, cite the speech as follows: King, M. L., Jr. (1963, August 28). I have a dream [Speech transcript]. Retrieved from URL if available.

What is the MLA citation format for MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech?

In MLA format, cite the speech like this: King, Martin Luther, Jr. "I Have a Dream." 28 Aug. 1963. Speech.

Can I cite the "I Have a Dream" speech if I listened to it on YouTube? How?

Yes, cite the YouTube video by including the author, year, title, platform, and URL. For example, APA: King, M. L., Jr. (1963). I have a dream [Video]. YouTube. URL.

How do I reference the "I Have a Dream" speech in Chicago style?

In Chicago style, cite as: King, Martin Luther, Jr. "I Have a Dream." Speech, March on Washington, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1963.

Is it necessary to include the location when citing the "I Have a Dream" speech?

Yes, including the location (March on Washington, Washington, D.C.) helps identify the event and provides context in your citation.

How do I cite a printed version of the "I Have a Dream" speech

found in a book?

Cite the speech as a chapter or section in the book, including author, title of speech, book editor, book title, publisher, year, and page numbers.

Should I include the date when citing MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech?

Yes, always include the original date of the speech, August 28, 1963, to provide accurate historical context.

How can I cite the "I Have a Dream" speech if I use a transcript from a website?

Include the author, year, title, format (transcript), website name, and URL in your citation according to the required style guide.

What is the best way to cite the "I Have a Dream" speech in a bibliography?

List the speech by author, title, date, format, and source location (e.g., website, book, archive) according to your citation style (APA, MLA, Chicago).

Additional Resources

1. Citing Historic Speeches: A Guide to Referencing Iconic Oratory

This book provides comprehensive guidelines on how to properly cite famous speeches, including Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream." It covers various citation styles such as APA, MLA, and Chicago, offering examples and tips for students and researchers. The text also explores the importance of accurate citation in preserving the integrity of historical documents.

2. Mastering MLA Citations for Speeches and Oral Histories

Focused on the MLA citation style, this book breaks down the process of citing speeches and oral histories with clarity and precision. It features step-by-step instructions on citing MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech from different sources like books, websites, and archives. Additionally, it explains how to handle multimedia and transcript citations.

3. Referencing Civil Rights Speeches in Academic Writing

This resource is tailored for students and scholars working with civil rights era documents and speeches, including MLK's landmark speech. It discusses the historical context of citations and provides examples of proper referencing in academic essays and research papers. The book also emphasizes ethical considerations in attributing speeches.

4. The Chicago Manual of Style for Speech Citations

A detailed guide to the Chicago citation style, this book includes specific chapters on citing speeches, both published and unpublished. Readers will find instructions on how to cite Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech from various media. It also addresses footnote and

bibliography formatting.

5. *APA Style Essentials for Citing Speeches and Lectures*

This book offers an in-depth look at applying APA style to speeches, with examples including MLK's "I Have a Dream." It covers citing live speeches, audio recordings, and transcripts, helping readers correctly format in-text citations and reference entries. The guide is ideal for psychology, education, and social sciences students.

6. *Digital Archives and Citation: Accessing and Citing MLK's "I Have a Dream"*

Highlighting the use of digital archives, this book explains how to locate and cite the "I Have a Dream" speech from online databases and repositories. It discusses challenges in digital citation and provides best practices for referencing multimedia historical sources. This text is useful for researchers working with digital humanities.

7. *How to Cite Speeches in Literary and Historical Research*

This book explores citation techniques for speeches within literary and historical research frameworks. It includes detailed examples of citing Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech in various citation formats. Readers gain insight into contextualizing speeches as primary source materials in academic writing.

8. *Essential Citation Practices for Rhetorical Analysis*

Designed for students conducting rhetorical analysis, this guide teaches how to accurately cite speeches like MLK's "I Have a Dream." It explains how citation supports critical engagement and scholarly dialogue. The book also provides templates for citing speeches in essays and presentations.

9. *Writing Research Papers on Civil Rights: Citation and Documentation*

This practical guide focuses on writing and citing sources related to civil rights topics, with examples drawn from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s work. It covers citation norms for speeches, interviews, and archival materials, helping writers produce well-documented research papers. The book also includes advice on avoiding plagiarism and maintaining academic integrity.

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