

Name: _____

"I Have a Dream"

Here are some of the most memorable parts of Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Read the passages and notes, and then answer the questions below.

Even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in **the American dream**.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its **creed**: **"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."** . . .

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.

I have a dream today. . . .

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. **With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope.** . . .

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning, **"My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride. From every mountainside, let freedom ring."**

This is the idea that anyone can be successful in the U.S. with hard work.

A creed is a set of beliefs.

King used the phrase "I have a dream" eight times in his speech. This technique is called repetition.

This line is from the Declaration of Independence. King stressed the word *all*.

Hew means "to cut."

This quote inspired the huge statue of King called the "Stone of Hope" at the King Memorial in Washington, D.C.

King wanted the lyrics of this old patriotic song to apply to Americans of all races.

1a. What phrase does King repeat throughout his speech? _____

1b. Why do you think he repeats that phrase so many times? _____

2. Why is it important to note that King stressed the word *all* when he quoted the Declaration of Independence? _____

3. In your own words, what dream did King have for his children? _____
