

Famous Speeches Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Famous Speeches trivia explores the memorable lines and defining moments behind some of history's most quoted addresses, from wartime calls to action to speeches that advanced civil rights and political change. It offers a lively way to revisit the people, occasions, and ideas that made these speeches endure across generations.

HARD FAMOUS SPEECHES TRIVIA

1. Before Lincoln rose to deliver the Gettysburg Address, which orator had already spoken for about two hours?

Answer: Edward Everett

2. Pin down the exact date: on what day was the Gettysburg Address delivered?

Answer: November 19, 1863

3. Roosevelt's "Day of Infamy" address came the day after Pearl Harbor; what was the speech's date?

Answer: December 8, 1941

4. Churchill's wartime speech "Their Finest Hour" was delivered on which June date in 1940?

Answer: June 18, 1940

5. For Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech, name the institution where it was given in Fulton, Missouri.?

Answer: Westminster College

6. JFK's inaugural address belongs to a very precise calendar moment. What was its date?

Answer: January 20, 1961

7. The March on Washington featured MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech on what exact date?

Answer: August 28, 1963

8. Who prompted King to pivot into the improvised "I have a dream" sequence by urging, "Tell them about the dream"?

Answer: Mahalia Jackson

9. Reagan's challenge at the Brandenburg Gate "tear down this wall" was delivered on what date?

Answer: June 12, 1987

10. Elie Wiesel's speech "The Perils of Indifference" was delivered on which date in 1999?

Answer: April 12, 1999

11. Obama delivered "A More Perfect Union" at which Philadelphia venue?

Answer: National Constitution Center

12. What was the date of Barack Obama's election-night speech in Chicago's Grant Park?

Answer: November 4, 2008

13. Harvey Milk delivered the "Hope Speech" at what event in San Francisco in 1978?

Answer: Gay Freedom Day Parade

14. Lou Gehrig's farewell speech is forever tied to a holiday. Which exact date was it given?

Answer: July 4, 1939

FUNNY FAMOUS SPEECHES TRIVIA

1. In Lou Gehrig's farewell, what phrase made optimism sound like it had won the pennant?

Answer: "I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

2. Which Richard Nixon speech became famous under a nickname that sounds more like a pet story than a political defense?

Answer: The "Checkers speech."

3. In the famous Nixon speech, what was the name of the dog that stole a little of the political spotlight?

Answer: Checkers

4. Spiro Agnew's tongue-twister "nattering nabobs of negativism" came from which speechwriter's pen?

Answer: William Safire

5. Harvey Milk's "Hope Speech" keeps coming back to what repeated line— basically the verbal version of a neon sign?

Answer: "You gotta give 'em hope."

6. Barbara Jordan made convention history by becoming the what at a Democratic National Convention keynote?

Answer: The first Black woman to deliver the keynote

7. Mario Savio did not recommend a gentle tap on the brakes. He said people must put their what upon the gears?

Answer: Their bodies

8. At Tilbury, Queen Elizabeth I claimed she had the heart and stomach of what?

Answer: A king

9. Which famous Sojourner Truth speech title is itself a pointed question?

Answer: "Ain't I a Woman?"

10. Frederick Douglass asked a question in 1852 that still lands like a cymbal crash. What was it?

Answer: "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?"

11. Chief Joseph's surrender speech ends with a line so final it practically closes the book

itself. What is it?

Answer: "I will fight no more forever."

12. Patrick Henry did not leave much room for negotiation: his famous challenge ends with what words?

Answer: "Or give me death!"

13. In Theodore Roosevelt's famous passage, who gets the praise: the critic in the cheap seats or the person actually covered in metaphorical dust?

Answer: The man who is actually in the arena

FUN FAMOUS SPEECHES TRIVIA

1. JFK's famous challenge, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country," is a textbook example of what rhetorical device built on contrast?

Answer: Antithesis

2. When Martin Luther King Jr. repeats "I have a dream" at the start of successive lines, what rhetorical device is he using?

Answer: Anaphora

3. Lincoln's phrase "of the people, by the people, for the people" comes in a neat trio. What is that three-part rhetorical structure called?

Answer: Tricolon

4. "Day of Infamy" sounds punchy partly because both words begin with the same sound. What device is that?

Answer: Alliteration

5. Which persuasive appeal tries to win you over with logic and reason rather than emotion or credibility?

Answer: Logos

6. If a speaker is trying to tug at the audience's heartstrings, which classic appeal are they leaning on?

Answer: Pathos

7. When a speaker banks on their own credibility or character to persuade an audience, which appeal is at work?

Answer: Ethos

8. What Greek word is the root of the English word "rhetoric"?

Answer: Rhetor

9. A person is suddenly handed a microphone with zero prep time. What kind of speech are they giving?

Answer: An impromptu speech

10. In a play, what do you call a speech delivered by one speaker to another character?

Answer: A monologue

11. What special term is used for a legislator's very first speech in a deliberative assembly?

Answer: Maiden speech

12. In what kind of political system does a prime minister often give policy speeches from the dispatch box?

Answer: Parliamentary systems

13. Where did Winston Churchill deliver the speech known as "Their Finest Hour"?

Answer: The House of Commons

FAMOUS SPEECHES FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which famous speech begins with the words "Four score and seven years ago"?

Answer: The Gettysburg Address

2. Finish this famous line from John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech: "Ask not what your country can do for you..."?

Answer: "Ask not what your country can do for you"

3. Who delivered the speech remembered for the phrase "Blood, toil, tears and sweat" in 1940?

Answer: Winston Churchill

4. Which president said, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself" in a first inaugural address?

Answer: Franklin D. Roosevelt

5. At what landmark was Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech delivered?

Answer: The Lincoln Memorial

6. Ronald Reagan gave a famous speech in West Berlin at which gate?

Answer: The Brandenburg Gate

7. In 1964, Mario Savio gave his well-known Free Speech Movement speech on the steps of what building at UC Berkeley?

Answer: Sproul Hall

8. Who is known for the surrender speech ending with "I will fight no more forever"?

Answer: Chief Joseph

9. The famous "Man in the Arena" passage comes from which 1910 speech by Theodore Roosevelt?

Answer: Citizenship in a Republic

10. What is the nickname of William Jennings Bryan's speech at the 1896 Democratic National Convention?

Answer: The Cross of Gold speech

11. Who is linked to the line "Give me liberty, or give me death!"?

Answer: Patrick Henry

12. George Washington's Farewell Address was published in what year?

Answer: 1796

EASY FAMOUS SPEECHES TRIVIA

1. Who delivered the Gettysburg Address in 1863?

Answer: Abraham Lincoln

2. In what Pennsylvania location was the Gettysburg Address given?

Answer: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

3. Which U.S. president gave the "Day of Infamy" address in 1941?

Answer: Franklin D. Roosevelt

4. What is the title of Winston Churchill's 1940 speech named in this set?

Answer: Their Finest Hour

5. Who gave the inaugural address in 1961?

Answer: John F. Kennedy

6. Who delivered the famous "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963?

Answer: Martin Luther King Jr.

7. The "I Have a Dream" speech was delivered during what major event?

Answer: The March on Washington

8. Which president announced his resignation from office in a 1974 speech?

Answer: Richard Nixon

9. Who famously told Mikhail Gorbachev to "tear down this wall" in 1987?

Answer: Ronald Reagan

10. Barack Obama gave his 2008 election night victory speech in what Chicago park?

Answer: Grant Park

11. Who gave the "Tryst with Destiny" speech in 1947?

Answer: Jawaharlal Nehru

12. Who gave the inauguration speech as South Africa's president in 1994?

Answer: Nelson Mandela

13. Which young activist addressed the United Nations Youth Assembly in 2013?

Answer: Malala Yousafzai

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/famous-speeches>