



College of the Mainland

WORDS THAT CHANGED HISTORY SPEECH LIST*

Pericles	“Funeral Oration”, 431 B.C., Athens
Socrates	“Apology”, 399 B.C., Athens
Patrick Henry	“Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death”, March 23, 1775, Richmond, Virginia
George Washington	“Resignation Speech”, December 23, 1784, Annapolis, Maryland
William Wilberforce	“Abolition Speech”, May 12, 1789, House of Commons, London
Abraham Lincoln	“2 nd Inaugural Address”, March 4, 1865, Washington, D.C.
Theodore Roosevelt	“Duties of American Citizenship”, January 26, 1883
Theodore Roosevelt	“The Man with the Muck-rake”, April 14, 1906, Washington, D.C.
Emmeline Pankhurst	Speech on Women’s Suffrage, Nov 13 1913, “I am here as a soldier ...”
Woodrow Wilson	Speech to Congress, April 2, 1917, “The world must be made safe for democracy”
Clarence Darrow	Closing speech in Defense of Henry Sweet, April 1926, “I believe in the law of love”
Franklin Roosevelt	Inaugural address, March 4, 1933, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself”

Winston Churchill	House of Commons, May 13, 1940, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat"
Winston Churchill	House of Commons, June 18, 1940, "This was their finest hour"
Winston Churchill	House of Commons, August 20, 1940, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few"
Jawaharial Nehru	Speech on the granting of independence, August 4, 1947, "At the stroke of midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom"
General Douglas MacArthur	Farewell speech to Congress, April 19, 1951, "Old Soldiers Never Die"
Nelson Mandela	'Free at Last', May 2, 1964, "I am the first accused"
John Kennedy	Inaugural Address, January 20, 1961, "Ask not what your country can do for you..."
General Douglas MacArthur	"Duty, Honor, Country", May 12, 1962, West Point, New York
Martin L. King, Jr.	Lincoln Memorial, August 28, 1963, "I have a dream"
Martin L. King, Jr.	Memphis, Tenn., April 3, 1968, "I've seen the mountain top"
Malcolm X	"You can't hate the roots of a tree, and not hate the tree", February 14, 1965
Shirley Chisholm	Speech to Congress, May 21, 1969, "I have been far oftener discriminated against because I am a woman than because I am black"
Golda Meir	Address to the Knesset, May 26, 1970, "Stop the killing"
Richard Nixon	Address to the nation, April 30, 1973, "There can be no whitewash at the White House"
Indira Gandhi	"Women's education is almost more important than the education of boys and men", November 23, 1974
Mother Theresa	Speech on receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, December 11, 1979
Ronald Reagan	"40 th Anniversary of D-Day", June 6, 1984, Pointe du Hoc, France

Ronald Reagan	“Address to the Nation on the Challenger”, January 28, 1986
Ronald Reagan	Speech at the Brandenburg Gate, June 12, 1987, “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall”
Elie Wiesel	Seventh White House Millennium Evening, April 12, 1999, “The perils of indifference”
George W. Bush	Address to the nation, September 11, 2001, “A great people has been moved to defend a great nation”

This is a sample list. Other speeches may be acceptable.