

# Martin Luther King – Glossary

**achievement** noun [count]

a particular thing that someone has achieved:  
*Winning the gold medal was a remarkable achievement.*

**aim** noun

**take aim (at)**

to point a gun at something before you shoot

**arrest** verb [transitive]

if the police arrest someone, they take that person to a police station because they think that he or she has committed a crime:  
*Police raided the building and arrested six men.*

**assassinate** verb [transitive]

to kill an important person deliberately

**award** verb [transitive]

to give someone a prize:  
*Students who complete the course successfully will be awarded a diploma.*

**Baptist** noun [count]

a member of a Protestant religious group that believes that only adults should be baptized

**Baptist** adjective

**bullet** noun [count]

a small piece of metal that is shot from a gun:  
*a bullet wound/hole*

**civil rights** noun [plural]

the basic rights that all people in a society have, for example the right to be treated fairly by the law

**conviction** noun [count]

a strong belief or opinion:  
*deep religious convictions*

**degree** noun [count]

a course of study at a university, or the qualification that you get after completing the course:  
*a master's degree in English literature*

**deliver** verb [transitive]

to give a formal talk:  
*He delivered a speech lasting 40 minutes.*

**demonstration** noun [count]

an occasion when people protest about something in public:  
*Angry students held demonstrations.*

**devote** verb

**devote yourself to something**

to spend a lot of your time or effort doing something: *Few people are able to devote themselves fully to their career.*

**drive out** phrasal verb

to force someone or something to leave a place:  
*Government forces have driven the rebels out of the eastern district.*

**eloquent** adjective

expressing something clearly and effectively:  
*an eloquent speech/speaker*

**eloquence** noun [uncount]

**eloquently** adverb

**equal** adjective

having or deserving the same rights, status, and opportunities as other people:  
*He believed that men and women were equal.*

**fire** verb [intransitive or transitive]

if a weapon fires, or if someone fires it, someone uses it to shoot something:  
*Jed lifted his rifle and fired at the target.*

**hate** noun [uncount]

the feeling of hating someone or something

**injustice** noun [count or uncount]

an unfair way of treating someone

**inspire** verb [transitive]

to give someone the enthusiasm or idea to do or create something: *The sea inspired many of the artist's later paintings.*

**killer** noun [count]

someone who kills another person:  
*The young woman's killer has not yet been found.*

**message** noun [count]

the main idea that is contained in something such as a speech or an advertisement: *The film sends a clear message about the dangers of drug-taking.*

**minister** noun [count]

a priest in some Protestant churches

**name** verb [transitive]

to give someone or something a name:  
**name someone/something something:** *We named our puppy Patch.*

**nominate** verb [transitive]

to officially suggest that someone should be given a job, or that someone or something should receive a prize

**official** adjective

decided or done by people in authority, especially a government: *the country's official language*

**passionate** adjective

showing or expressing powerful emotions or very strong beliefs

**preacher** noun [count]

someone whose job is to give religious speeches or lead religious ceremonies in some Christian churches

**protest** noun [count]

an occasion when people show strong public opposition to something: *a protest march*

**reflect** verb [intransitive]

to think about something carefully and seriously

**remarkable** adjective

unusual in a way that surprises or impresses you: *The play has been a remarkable success.*

**rifle** noun [count]

a large gun with a long barrel

**right** noun [count]

something that you are morally or legally allowed to do or have: *the right to political asylum*

**ring out** (past tense **rang**; past participle **rung**)

phrasal verb

to produce a loud clear sound

**role model** noun [count]

someone whose behaviour is a good example for other people to copy

**shot** noun [count]

an act of firing a gun, or the sound of a gun being fired: *The neighbours say they heard four shots.*

**speech** noun [count]

a formal occasion when someone speaks to an audience, or the words that someone speaks to an audience: *She made a wonderful speech.*

**spread** (past tense and past participle **spread**) verb

[intransitive or transitive]

if information spreads, or if you spread it, it becomes known by more people than before:

*Someone has been spreading nasty rumours about Stella's private life.*

**tireless** adjective

working very hard to achieve something, with a lot of energy and determination

**tirelessly** adverb