



Quote Analysis Worksheet

Martin Luther King Jr. • Grades 3–5

About this worksheet: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was known for his powerful speeches and inspiring words. Each quote below carries an important message about justice, equality, and peaceful change. Analyze each quote carefully, explain its meaning, and connect it to your own life and experiences.

1

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."*

1

What do you think Dr. King meant by this statement? Explain in your own words.

2

Describe a situation where you could respond to someone's unkindness with love instead of anger. What might happen?

2

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

3

What is Dr. King saying about the connection between injustice and justice? Why does injustice in one place affect everyone?

4

Think of an example of injustice in your school or community. How could you help address it?

3

"The time is always right to do what is right."

5

What message is Dr. King communicating about taking action? Why is timing important in this quote?

6

Describe a time when you stood up for what was right, even though it was difficult. What did you learn from that experience?

4

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

7

What do you think Dr. King meant by this? Why is it important to speak up about important issues?

8

What is an issue that matters to you? How can you use your voice to make a difference?

5

"People should be judged by their character, not by the color of their skin."

9

Explain what "character" means and why Dr. King believed it was more important than physical appearance.

10 How can you make sure you judge people by their character? Give specific examples of how you can practice this in your daily life.
