Martin Luther King Rhetoric Checklist

Repetition: Repeat statement multiple times using same first words but changing ending…I have a dream…I have a dream…I have a dream…

Humble Intro: I am happy to join with you…I say to you today my friend…

Big Moment: What will go down in history..

Time in Perspective: 100 years later…

Promise: Honoring this obligation… Promissory note…

Metaphors: Bad check…which has been marked insufficient funds…Bank of opportunity…is not empty…Until justice flows down like waters…

Always urgent: Fierce urgency of now…

Motivation: Now is the time…It would be fatal…There will continue to be trouble if we do not act now…

Hope: This is not the end but the beginning…This can and will be changed…With this faith…

Honor: We shall not honor or sacrifice our freedom by drinking the bitterness of hatred or violence…we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force…

All Tied Together: Their freedom is bound to our freedom…no man can be successful until all men are successful..

Persistence: We will never be satisfied as long as…

Dream: I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live up the true meaning of its creed…

Right Way: Shall not be judged by the color of our skin but the content of our character…We are all sisters and brothers…

Strong End: Free at last, free at last, thank God all mighty we are free at last….