

## Dr. King PEEL #1 Revision: Metaphors

Dr. King includes many metaphors in his speech to show the audience that racial equality can be achieved with peace and unity. Saying that mankind is not "mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life" presents an idea of togetherness; there is no way his global audience can make a difference if they do not set their discriminatory ideals aside. King reminds the world that they are not insignificant pieces of debris floating around, and their action against racism is crucial. He also stresses that it is important to practice what you preach and defend all types of persons, rather than letting the acts of hatred prevail. Martin Luther King Jr. calls racism "a starless midnight" to emphasize how terrible acts of discrimination are. He does this to show that there is no light in a world with racism; instead there is only darkness and desperation to come. The Nobel Peace Prize winner urges his audience and humanity to realize that the introduction of light lies at their fingertips, and yet no aggression is necessary. Utilizing metaphors like this one is effective because they make direct comparisons on the evils of racism and neutrality in this situation. When speaking of the civil rights movement, he refers to those involved as "known pilots and... underground crew," which means that every single person who contributes is a grand part of the end results. In a flight, everyone involved plays a role in the safety of the passengers and the smoothness of the plane ride, from the pilot to the ground crew. Although the pilot takes most of the credit, there are many people who are essential to flights. Similarly, famous activists, such as Dr. King, take most of the credit for the bettering of the future, but he wants everyone to be honored for making an effort. King incorporates metaphors in the speech to make it known across the world that racial equality can be fulfilled without violence or division.

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to a  
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importance of  
neutrality in this

inspire listeners

across the world