History's Greatest Speeches (Dover Thrift Editions)
Synopsis

Ideal for classroom use, this anthology also provides a valuable tool for preparing or performing public speeches. Twenty of the world's most influential and stirring public lectures include Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!" oration. Additional speeches include Pericles' fifth-century BC funeral oration, George Washington's 1784 resignation speech, Martin Luther's 1520 address to the Diet of Worms, and Jonathan Edwards' 1741 sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." Other orations include Sojourner Truth's 1851 "Ain't I a Woman?" address, Frederick Douglass's 1852 "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" speech, Elie Wiesel's 1999 lecture on the perils of indifference, plus speeches by Eleanor Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and other luminaries. Includes 3 selections from the Common Core State Standards Initiative: "I Have a Dream," "Gettysburg Address," and "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"

Book Information

Series: Dover Thrift Editions
Paperback: 240 pages
Publisher: Dover Publications (November 21, 2013)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0486497399
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5 x 8.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (9 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #113,841 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Essays & Correspondence > Speeches #3531 in Books > History > World #5069 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government

Customer Reviews

Ordered this for my students and it offers a nice selection of speeches. The most important thing for me was finding a collection that offered both conservative and liberal voices (most textbooks lean more toward liberal speeches as if anyone with a conservative perspective is incapable of giving a good speech). As with other Dover titles, the price makes it a particularly good deal.

I teach a speech class to college freshmen, and they love the speeches in this book. In addition to
some of the well known classics like the funeral oration of Pericles and Sojourner Truth’s “Ain’t I a Woman?” speech, there are some neglected gems in here. Check out Susan B. Anthony’s "On Behalf of the Woman Suffrage Amendment" in which she argues we do NOT need an amendment granting women the right to vote. (Her argument: women should have the right to vote even without the amendment.) Similarly, Theodore Roosevelt’s "Duties of American Citizenship" seems just as relevant today as when he first gave it in 1883. The book does rely heavily on speeches from the U.S., and some of the selections are questionable, but this is a great value for the price.

It is a good collection and worth reading for a student of rhetoric, however it is mostly a selection of American speakers. In this regard I will Title it as "History's greatest speeches in the American or western context" Saleem Sheikh

Fantastic condition and came a day earlier!! Which worked out perfectly for me! So happy!

In short...if one truly listens and cares about life over history of the spoken word, this little book is for you. A gem.

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