Text 1

Don't tell me words don't matter. <u>"I have a dream"</u> – just words? <u>"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal"</u> – just words? <u>"We have nothing to fear but fear itself"</u> – just words? Just speeches?

It's true that speeches don't solve all problems. But what is also true is that if we cannot inspire the country to believe again, then it doesn't matter how many policies and plans we have. And that is why I'm running for president of the United States of America.

Barack Obama's speech in Wisconsin (2008)

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Text 2

I am William Wallace. And I see a whole army of my countrymen, here in defiance of tyranny! You have come to fight as free men. And free men you are! What will you do without freedom? Will you fight? (...) Fight and you may die. Run and you will live, at least a while. And dying in your beds many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days, from this day to that, for one chance, just one chance, to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives but they will never take our freedom!?

Mel Gibson's speech as William Wallace in the film Braveheart (1995)

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Text 3

We realise the importance of light when we see darkness. We realise the importance of our voice when we are silenced. In the same way... we realised the importance of pens and books when we saw the guns. (...) Let us pick up our books and our pens — they are the most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world. Education is the only solution.

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Malala Yousafzai's speech at the United Nations (2013)

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