***My Idol [Sample]*** 

The person I admire the most is Martin Luther King, Jr. He was an American priest/pastor and politician, who was born on January 15, 1929 and died on April 4, 1968.

Martin Luther went to school in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of fifteen; he received the B. A. degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, a distinguished Negro institution of Atlanta. After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, he was awarded the B.D. in 1951. Later on, he completed his studies at Boston University, gaining the doctorate in 1953 and receiving the degree in 1955. In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott and had two sons and two daughters.

In 1954, Martin Luther King became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Always a strong worker for civil rights for members of his race, King was, by this time, a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the leading organization of its kind in the nation. He fought strongly against the discrimination to the black people, and succeeded Negroes and whites to ride the buses as equals.

During these days, King was arrested, his home was bombed, he was subjected to personal abuse, but at the same time he emerged as a Negro leader of the first rank.

In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The ideals for this organization he took from Christianity; its operational techniques from Gandhi. Meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles.

In the eleven-year period between 1957 and 1968, King traveled over six million miles and spoke over twenty-five hundred times, appearing wherever there was injustice, protest, and action. In these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a << coalition of conscience>> and inspiring his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”, a manifesto of the Negro revolution.

He planned the drives in Alabama for the registration of Negroes as voters; he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C., of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his address, “l Have a Dream’’. He was arrested upwards of twenty times and assaulted at least four times; he was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by *Time* magazine in 1963; and became not only the symbolic leader of American blacks but also a world figure.

At the age of thirty-five, Martin Luther King, Jr., was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of $54,123 to the furtherance of the civil rights movement.

On the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead a protest march in sympathy with striking garbage workers of that city, he was assassinated.

He was a man of Honor, who supported firmly his ideas and fought strongly for Human Rights, against Racism, Violence, Abuse and Injustice!!

 