

## Famous Persuasive Speeches

**John F. Kennedy - *The Decision to go the Moon* 1961** (President of USA in 1960s)

We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organise and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to **postpone**, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too.



**postpone** - agree to do later

**Barack Obama - *Victory speech*** (Previous President of USA)

The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even in one term, but America - I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you - we as a people will get there.

There will be setbacks and false starts. There are many who won't agree with every decision or policy I make as president, and we know that government can't solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face. I will listen to you, especially when we disagree.



And above all, I will ask you to join in the work of remaking this nation the only way it's been done in America for 221 years - block by block, brick by brick, calloused hand by calloused hand.

**Winston Churchill - *We shall fight on the beaches* 1940** (Prime minister of Britain during WWII)

...we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender, and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this Island or a large part of it were **subjugated** and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British **Fleet**, would carry on the struggle, until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.



**subjugated** - taken control of, dominated

**Fleet** - A number of warships

**Elizabeth I - *Speech to the Troops* 1588**

(Queen of England during Tudor times)

I am come amongst you, as you see, at this time, not for my **recreation and disport**, but being resolved, in the midst and heat of the battle, to live and die amongst you all; to lay down for my God, and for my kingdom, and my people, my honour and my blood, even in the dust. I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too. I myself will take up arms, I myself will be your general, judge, and rewarder of every one of your **virtues** in the field.



**recreation and disport** - amusement, fun

**virtues** - good qualities