



Monthly Meet Up

Gettysburg Address  
19 November 1863

Brevity is the soul of wit, or, in this case, of inspiration. At just 272 words and three minutes in length, The Gettysburg Address is irrefutably one of the most historically significant speeches.

Rhetorical Analysis

Current Applications (Learn the Address, Gettysburg Replies)





<https://youtu.be/qCXUbQ4JjXI>  
[pbs.org/video/the-civil-war-the-civil-war-the-gettysburg-address/](https://www.pbs.org/video/the-civil-war-the-civil-war-the-gettysburg-address/)

Gettysburg Nov. 2. 1863



To His Excellency,

A. Lincoln,

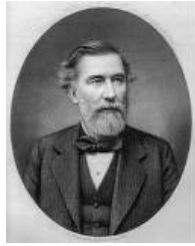
President of the United States,

Sir,

The several States  
having soldiers in the Army of the  
Potomac, who were killed at the  
Battle of Gettysburg, or have since  
died at the various hospitals, which  
were established in the vicinity,  
have procured grounds on a  
prominent part of the Battle Field  
for a Cemetery, and are having  
the dead removed to them  
and properly buried.

27781

Request from David Wills to President Lincoln  
November 2, 1863 to say “a few appropriate  
remarks.”



Judge David Wills, 32, was the instigator  
of the Gettysburg National Cemetery and  
hosted Lincoln at his home.

<https://presidentlincoln.illinois.gov/>



In the week before Lincoln left for Gettysburg, his 10-year-old son, Thomas “Tad,” had been bed-ridden with an illness consisting of a fever and a “scarlet” rash.

Goldman, Armond S., and Frank C. Schmalstieg. “Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Illness.” *Journal of Medical Biography* 15 (2007): 104-110.

Gettysburg February 17th 1863

### ORDER OF PROCESSION

FOR THE  
INAUGURATION  
OF THE

## National Cemetery

ON THE 19<sup>th</sup>

Military, under com  
Major-General Meade and Staff, 1  
it  
Officers of the Navy and  
Aids, Cm  
PRESIDENT OF  
Member  
Assistant Secretaries of t  
General-in-Chief  
Lieutenant-General Sax  
Judges of the  
Hon. EDWARD EVERETT, O  
Governors of the  
Commissioners of the States  
Bearers with 1  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED ST

Members of the  
Officers of the  
May  
Gettysburg, Con  
Officers and members of the  
Committees of I  
U. S. Militia  
Officers and Represent  
Officers of differ  
Hospital 1  
Soldiers 1  
Kids  
Mass  
Independent 1  
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Literary, Scientific,  
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Citizens of the  
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Citizens of the  
Citizens of t

### Programme of Arrangements and Order of Exercises FOR THE INAUGURATION

OF THE  
NATIONAL CEMETERY AT GETTYSBURG,

the military leaving sufficient space between them and the line of graves for the civic procession to pass.

The ladies will occupy the right of the stand, and it is desirable that they be upon the ground as early as ten o'clock a. m.

The exercises will take place as soon as the military and civic bodies are in position, as follows :

Music.

Prayer.

Music.

ORATION.

Music.

DEDICATORY REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Dirge.

Benediction.

After the benediction the procession will be dismissed, and the State Marshals and special aids to the Chief Marshal will form on Baltimore street, and return to the Court-house in Gettysburg, where a meeting of the marshals will be held.

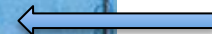
An appropriate salute will be fired in Gettysburg on the day of the celebration, under the direction of Maj. Gen. Couch.

WARD H. LAMON,

Marshal-in-Chief.

Gilman & Peck, Printers, 111 North 4<sup>th</sup> St., Washington.

Inauguration Program  
for National Cemetery  
at Gettysburg,  
November 19, 1863



Did Lincoln write the address on an envelope while on the train from Washington to Gettysburg?

Two copies apparently were written before delivering the speech, one of which probably was the reading copy. The remaining ones were produced months later for soldier benefit events.

Executive Mansion,

Washington, 1863

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that "all men are created equal"

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of it, as a final resting place for those who died here, that the nation might live. This we may, in all propriety do. But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow, this ground—the brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have hallowed it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; while it can never forget what they did here.

It is rather for us, the living, to stand here, <sup>we have but spoken</sup>

ted to the great task remaining before us—that, from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here, gave the last full measure of our devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people by the people for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865). "Nicolay Copy," Gettysburg Address, 1863. Page 2. Holograph manuscript. Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Gift of Hay family, 1916 (2.5)



Executive Mansion,

Washington, 1862

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that "all men are created equal"

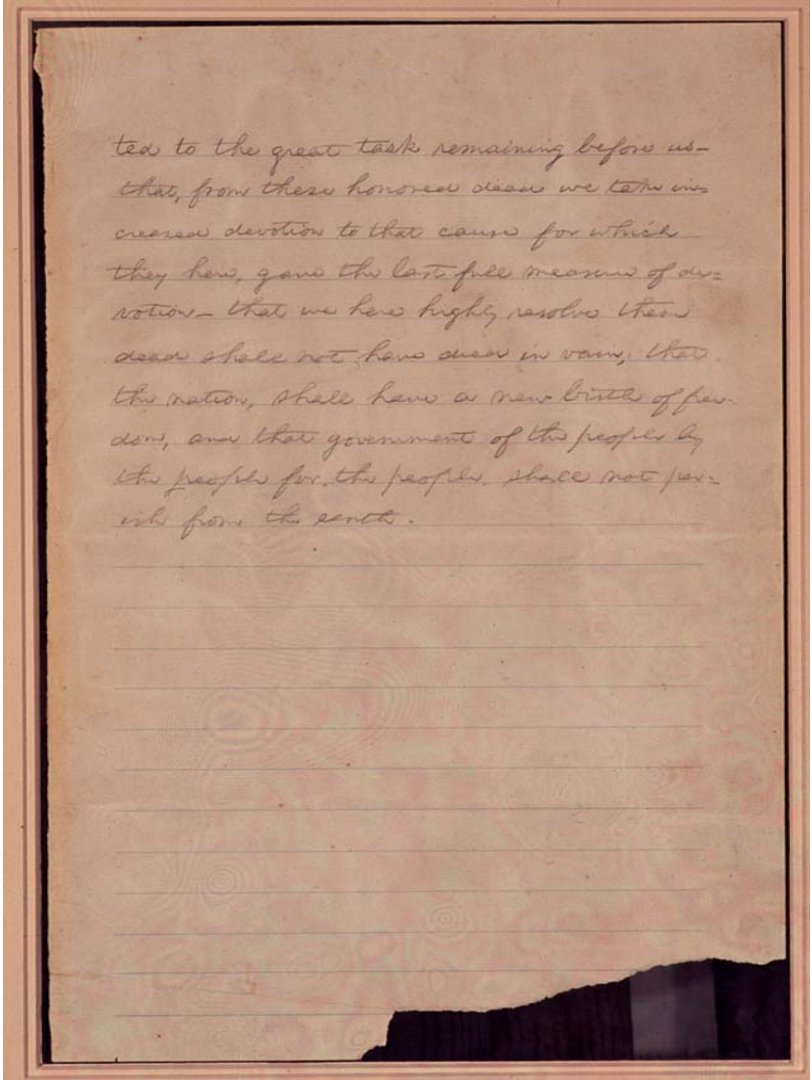
Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of it, as a final resting place for those who died here, that the nation might live. This we may, in all propriety do. But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow, this ground—the brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have hallowed it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; while it can never forget what they did here.

It is rather for us, the living, to stand here,

The first page of this copy is on White House (then Executive Mansion) stationery, lending strong support to the theory that it was drafted in Washington, D.C.

This document is presumed to be the only working, or pre-delivery, draft and is commonly identified as the "Nicolay Copy" because it was once owned by John George Nicolay, Lincoln's private secretary.

The second page is on what has been loosely described as foolscap, suggesting that Lincoln was not fully satisfied with the final paragraph of the Address and rewrote that passage in Gettysburg on November 18 while staying at the home of Judge David Wills.



Address delivered at the dedication of the  
Cemetery at Gettysburg.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers  
brought forth on this continent a new na-  
tion, conceived in liberty, and dedicated  
to the proposition that all men are crea-  
tures equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war,  
testing whether that nation, or any nation  
so conceived and so dedicated, can long  
endure. We are met on a great battle-field  
of that war. We have come to dedicate a  
portion of that field, as a final resting  
place for those who here gave their lives,  
that that nation might live. It is altogether  
fitting and proper that we should  
do this.

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the unfinished work which they who  
gave here have thus far so nobly advanced.  
It is rather for us to be here dedicated to  
the great task remaining before us— that  
from these honored dead we take increased  
devotion to that cause for which they gave  
the last full measure of devotion— that  
we here highly resolve that these dead shall  
not have died in vain— that this nation,  
under God, shall have a new birth of free-  
dom— and that government of the people,

by the people, for the people, shall not per-  
ish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln.

November 19, 1863.

There are five known copies  
of the speech in Lincoln's  
handwriting, each with a  
slightly different text, and  
named for the people who  
first received them: Nicolay,  
Hay, Everett, Bancroft and  
Bliss.

The "Bliss" version, in Lincoln's handwriting, now used as the standard version of the Gettysburg Address

Some 15,000 people attended this dedication ceremony.



Buckley School of Public Speaking

<https://buckleyschool.com/magazine/articles/on-this-day-the-gettysburg-address/>

## 3 Hours Earlier (Noon)

These modern prints show the crowd around the platform at Gettysburg and a detail from that picture of President Lincoln on the platform. The original glass plate from the Mathew Brady Collection lay unidentified in the National Archives until 1952, when Josephine Cobb, chief of the Still Pictures Branch, recognized Lincoln in the center of the detail, hatless and probably seated; his bodyguard, Ward Lamon; and Governor Andrew Curtin of Pennsylvania.



Mathew Brady Collection. The Dedication Ceremony, November 19, 1863. Courtesy of the Still Pictures Branch, National Archives (6.4, 6.5)





Mathew Brady Collection. The Dedication Ceremony, November 19, 1863. Detail. Courtesy of the Still Pictures Branch, National Archives



[//www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/images/abe.jpg](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/images/abe.jpg)



**LEFT SIDE of PLATFORM**

LINCOLN

SEWARD

Edward  
Everett  
keynote  
speaker

Lincoln's  
special  
escort  
General  
Fry

Cowlick aide

Dark  
hat  
man

Italian  
Minister  
Bertinatti

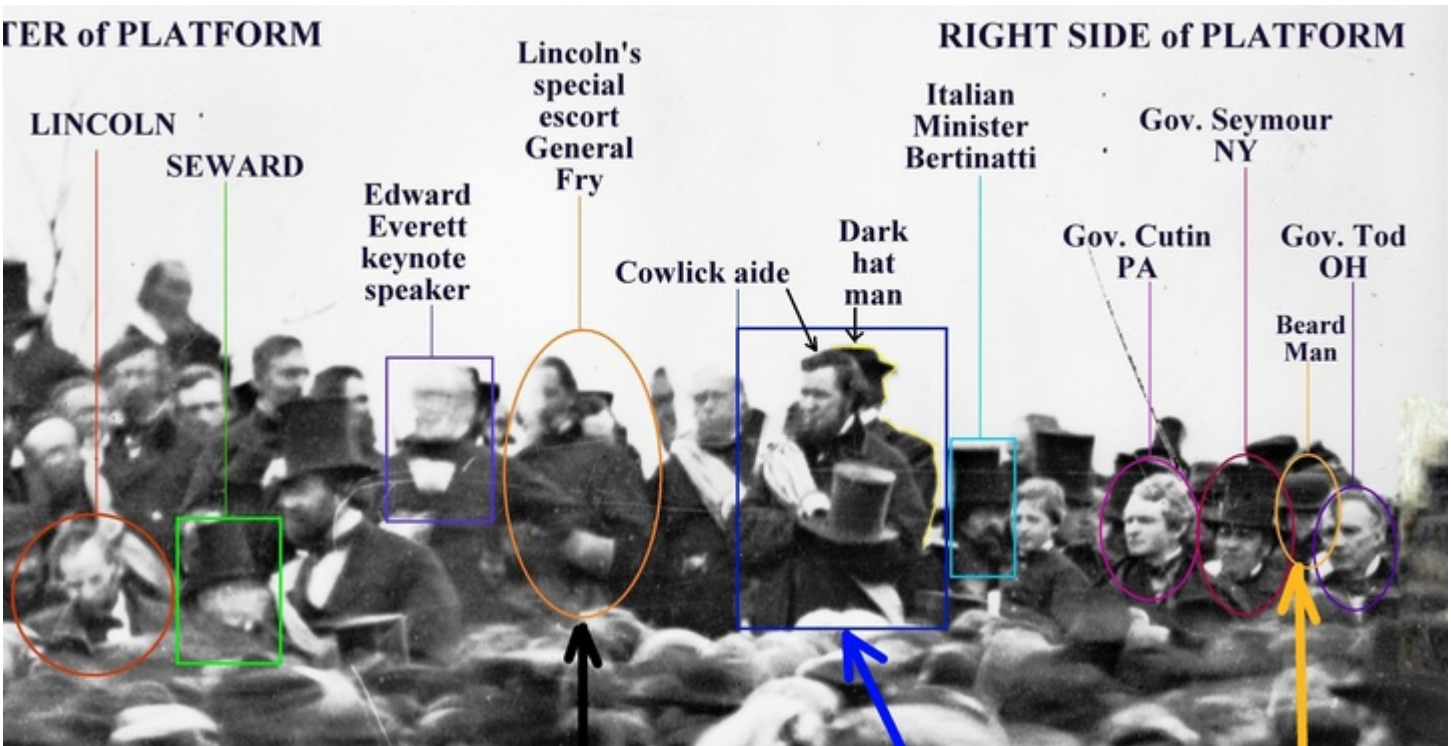
Gov. Cutin  
PA

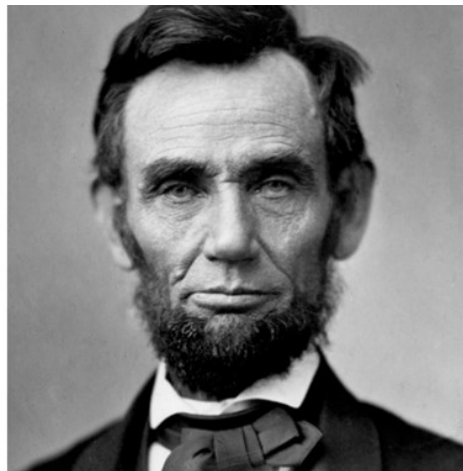
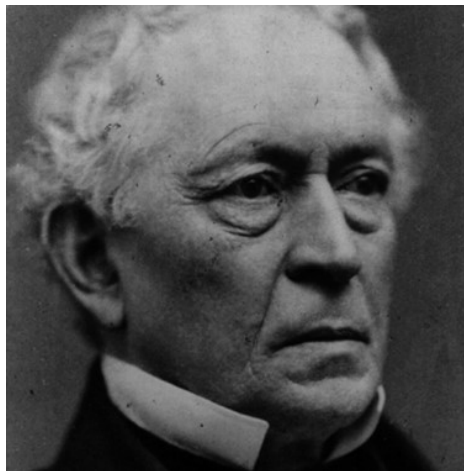
Gov. Seymour  
NY

Gov. Tod  
OH

Beard  
Man

**RIGHT SIDE of PLATFORM**





Edward Everett (left) and Lincoln (in a photograph made 11 days before his Gettysburg Address)

Graduated valedictorian, Harvard College, age 17  
BA, MA, Harvard  
PhD University of Gottingen  
Professor Greek literature, Harvard  
U.S. Rep, Senate, Diplomat to Great Britain  
President of Harvard, successor to J.Q. Adams  
Secretary of State to Pres. Fillmore  
Died January 1865, age 70

Self-educated lawyer  
State legislator (8 years)  
US Rep (1 term)  
Leader of new Republican Party  
Assassinated April 1865, age 56



# Speaking Styles

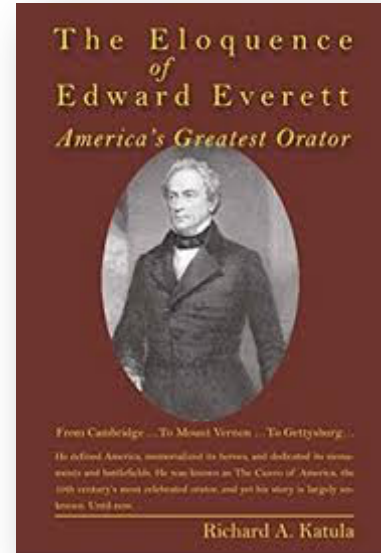
## Everett

- Elevated diction
- Self-consciously artful expression
- Formality
- Pretension

## Lincoln

- Plain diction
- Straightforward expression
- Self-deprecating humor
- “Honest Old Abe”
- “Barbarian” “Yahoo”
- “Good-natured, kindly, honest, but frivolous and uncertain” – Chas Adams

"Mr. Everett was listened to with breathless silence by all that immense crowd, and he had his audience in tears many times during his masterly effort."





**National Republican.**  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.  
 FRIDAY.....NOVEMBER 20, 1863.

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**GETTYSBURG.**  
 Dedication of the National  
 Cemetery.  
 IMPOSING CEREMONIES.

**THE ORATION.**  
 We regret that our limited space will not permit us to lay before our readers this splendid effort of Mr. Everett. In it he gives a graphic and eloquent description of the battle of Gettysburg and an admirable dissertation upon the wicked rebellion of which it was one of the bloody fruits. The oration will be read with interest by every loyal man and woman in the land.  
 When Mr. Everett had concluded, a hymn composed by Hon. B. B. French, was sung with excellent effect by the Baltimore Glee Club, after which, Marshal Lamon introduced to the assemblage, the President of the United States, who delivered the following dedicatory remarks:

**SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT.**  
 Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. [Applause.] Now, we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any other



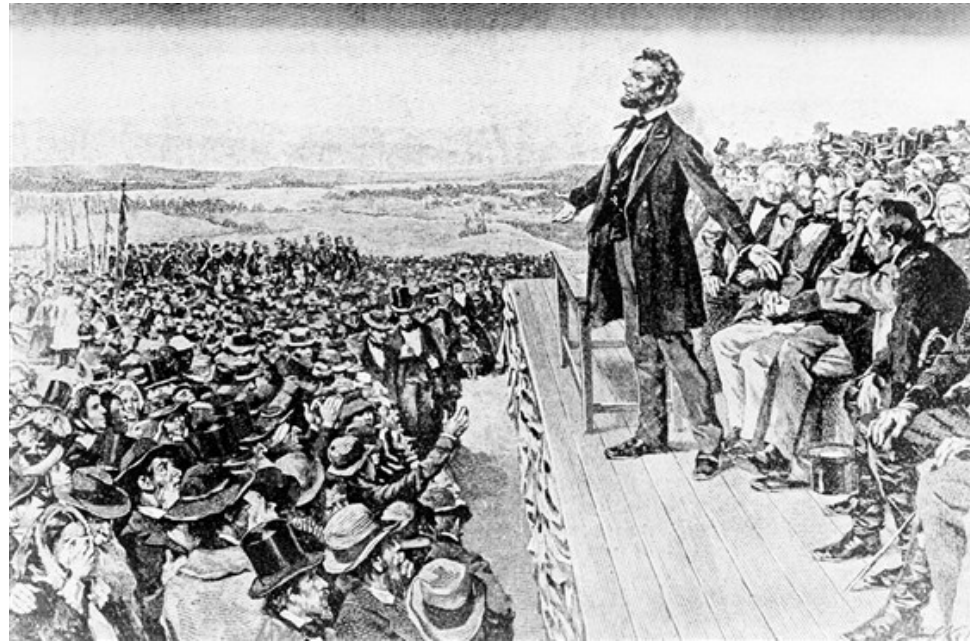
We regret that our limited space will not permit us to lay before our readers this splendid effort of Mr. Everett. In it he gives a graphic and eloquent description of the battle of Gettysburg and an admirable dissertation upon the wicked rebellion of which it was one of the bloody fruits. The oration will be read with interest by every loyal man and woman in the land.

crowded on the previous evening, and the tired multitudes were obliged to sleep in the churches, in the parlors of the citizens, every available resting place being occupied.

**THE DEDICATORY CEREMONIES.**  
 On Thursday morning the sun rose brightly, and after being temporarily obscured, smiled pleasantly throughout the day, and the ceremonies proceeded according to the programme, under the direction of the Chief Marshal Ward H. Lamon, and his aids and the marshals appointed from the different States represented.

thus far so nobly carried on. [Applause.] It is rather for us here to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us; that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that those dead shall not have died in vain. [Applause.] That the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom; and that Governments of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth. [Long continued applause.]

The president was up and quickly down with his dedicatory remarks in a few short minutes. Some newspapers reported: "The President also spoke."



An undated illustration depicting President Abraham Lincoln making his Nov. 19, 1863 Gettysburg Address, which took place at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery on the battlefield at Gettysburg, Pa. AP, file

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We pass over the silly remarks of the President. For the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them, and that they shall be no more repeated or thought of.

But the Secretary of State is a man of note. He it was who first fulminated the doctrine of the irrepressible conflict; and on the battle field and burial ground of Gettysburg he did

The *Patriot & Union* dismissed Lincoln's words as a political overture.

"We pass over the silly remarks of the President. For the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them, and that they shall be no more repeated or thought of."

“Lamon, this is a flat failure and the people are disappointed.”

“That speech won’t scow.”

A plow that won’t scow is so dull that it won’t break the soil to make a furrow



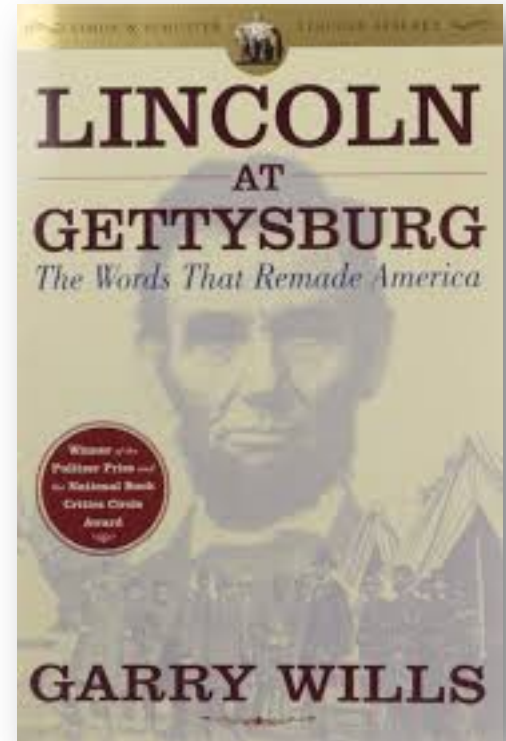
Ward Hall Lamon  
Personal friend, law partner (1852-1856)  
U.S. Marshal  
Official host of the ceremonies

When Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address, he was weak and dizzy; his face had a ghastly colour. That evening on the train to Washington, DC, he was febrile and weak, and suffered severe headaches. The symptoms continued; back pains developed.

On the fourth day of the illness, a widespread scarlet rash appeared that soon became vesicular. By the tenth day, the lesions itched and peeled. The illness lasted three weeks. The final diagnosis, a touch of varioloid, was an old name for **smallpox** that was later used in the 20th century to denote mild smallpox in a partially immune individual. It was unclear whether Lincoln had been immunized against smallpox. Indeed, this review suggests that Lincoln had unmodified smallpox and that Lincoln's physicians tried to reassure the public that Lincoln was not seriously ill.

Goldman, Armond S., and Frank C. Schmalstieg. "Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Illness." *Journal of Medical Biography* 15 (2007): 104-110.

But the myth that Lincoln was disappointed in the result – that he told the unreliable Lamon that his speech, like a bad plow, “won’t scour” – has no basis. (p. 36)







April 15, 1868  
City Hall  
Re-erected April 15, 1923  
DC Court of Appeals  
400 block of Indiana Ave NW

“Lincoln is the idol of the American people at this moment. Anyone who saw & heard as I did, the hurricane of applause that met his every movement in Gettysburg would know that he lived in every heart.

It was no cold, faint shadow of a kind reception, it was a tumultuous outpouring of exultation from true and loving hearts at the sight of a man whom every one knew to be honest, and true, and sincere, in every act of his life, and every pulsation of his heart.”

- Ward Lamon

# National Republic

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRIDAY ..... NOVEMBER

## GETTYSBURG

Dedication of the National Cemetery.

IMPOSING CEREMONIES

ORATION OF HON. EDWARD EVERETT

SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT

THE PROCESSION,

The consecration of the National at Gettysburg, yesterday, was a most and highly impressive affair. The crowded on the previous evening, tired multitudes were obliged to seek churches, in the parlors of the citizens, available resting place being occupied.

### THE DEDICATORY CEREMONIES

On Thursday morning the sun rose and after being temporarily obscured pleasantly throughout the day, and ceremonies proceeded according to the program under the direction of the Chief Marshal, H. Lamon, and his aids and the marshals appointed from the different States represented.

THE ORATION.  
We regret that our limited space will not

### SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. [Applause.] Now, we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any other nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war; we are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting-place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. [Applause.] The world will little note nor long remember what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here. [Applause.]

It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on. [Applause.] It is rather for us here to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us; that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that those dead shall not have died in vain. [Applause.] That the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom; and that Governments of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth. [Long continued applause.]

Applause.

Applause.

Applause.

Applause.

Applause.

Long continued applause.

Nov. 20 1863  
225 L<sup>o</sup> Street 1863.

My dear Sir,

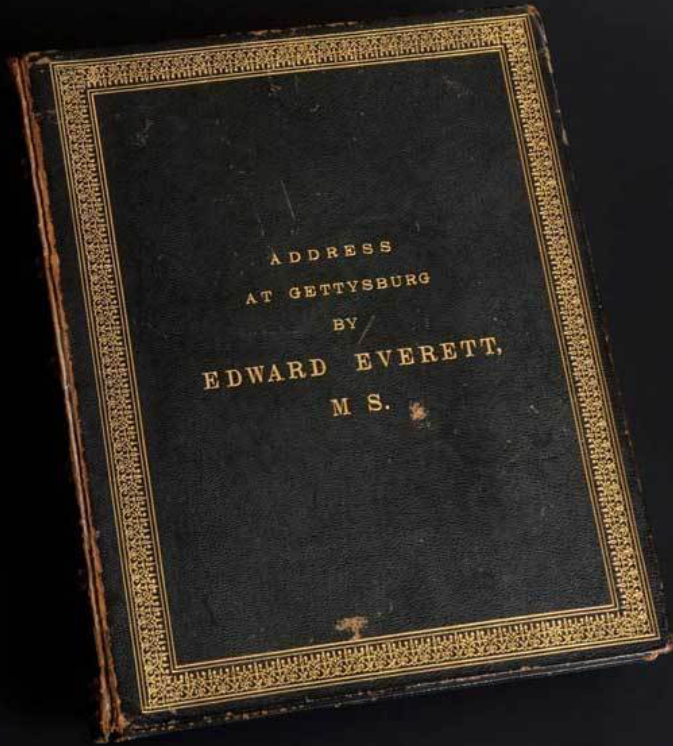
Not wishing to intrude upon  
your journey, when you must be  
much engaged, I beg leave, in  
this way, to thank you very  
sincerely for your great thought-  
fulness for my daughter's accommo-  
dation on the Platform yesterday, &  
much kindness otherwise to me  
& mine at Gettysburg.

Permit me also to express my  
great admiration of the thoughts  
expressed by you, with such elo-  
quent

The President

Edward Everett wrote the President the following day to express his “admiration” for the President’s “[eloquence], simplicity, and appropriateness,” stating “I should be glad, if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes” (Everett, 1863).

Edward Everett (1794–1865) to Abraham Lincoln. Holograph letter, [November 20, 1863]. Envelope. Page 2. Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Gift of Robert Todd Lincoln, 1923 (5.5)



The ALPLM's copy of the Gettysburg Address comes from Edward Everett. In early 1864, Everett asked President Lincoln to write the speech – he intended to bind the Address to his own speech and sell them at the New York City sanitary fair to raise money for wounded Civil War soldiers.

Everett, who “recognized the brilliance of Lincoln’s remarks...made no reference to them on the cover” (Cornelius and Knorowski, 2016, p. 88).

Address delivered at the dedication of the  
Cemetery at Gettysburg.

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brought forth on this continent a new na-  
tion, conceived in liberty, and dedicated  
to the proposition that all men are crea-  
tures equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war,  
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But, in a larger sense, we can not dedi-

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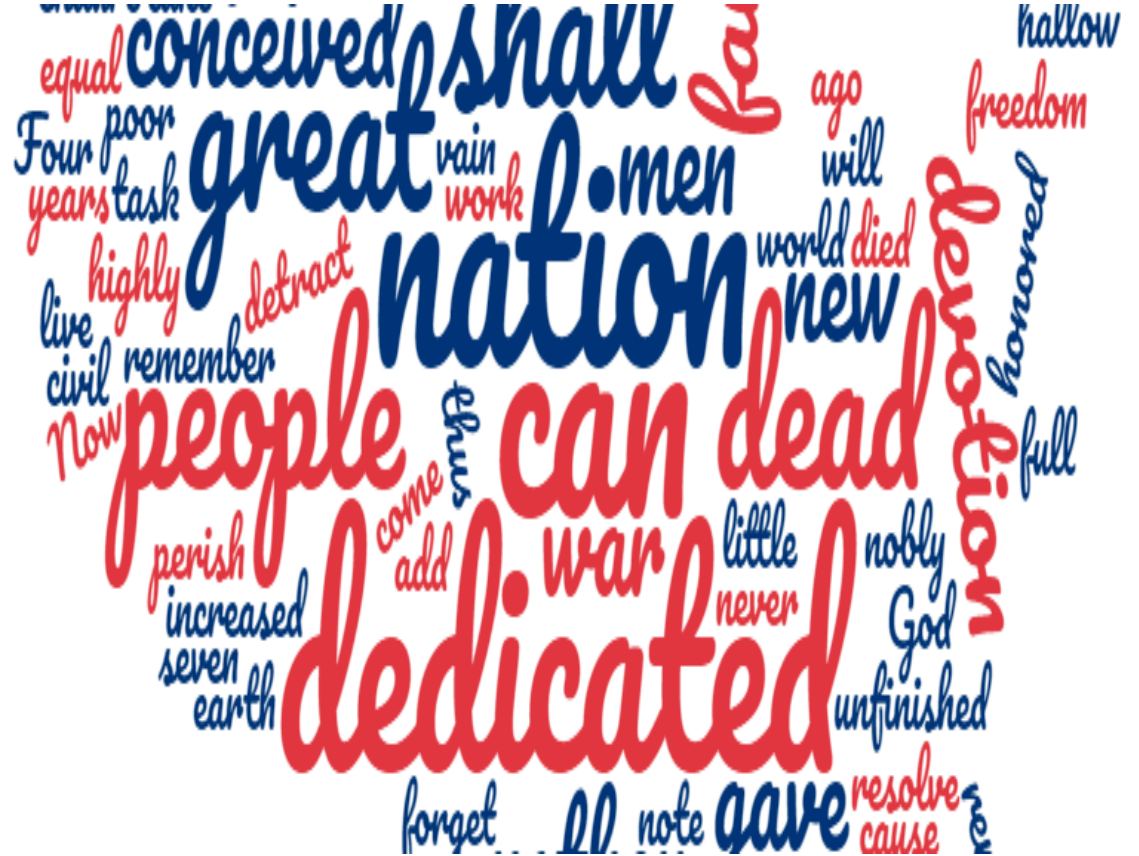
by the people, for the people, shall not  
perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln.

November 19, 1863.

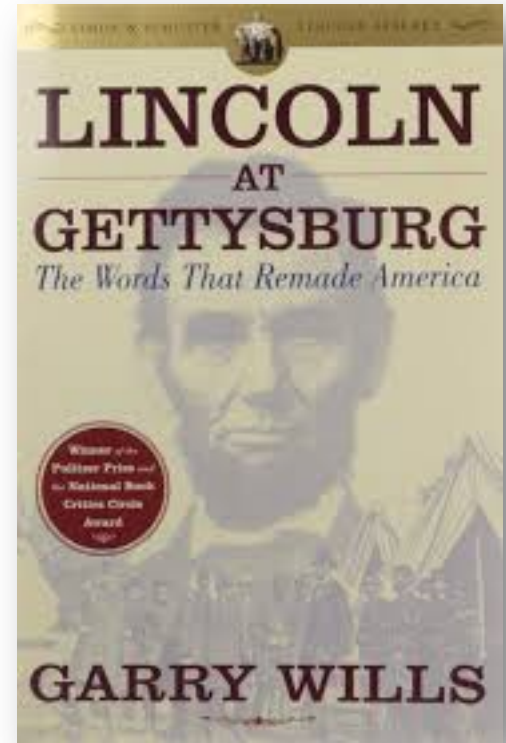
The "Bliss" version, in Lincoln's handwriting, now used as the standard version of the Gettysburg Address

## Content Analysis: Word Cloud





Garry Wills revels in grammar and rhetoric as he explains to the reader of *Lincoln at Gettysburg* the precise parallels between the Gettysburg Address and the funeral orations of Pericles and Gorgias in the fifth century B.C.E.



Wills, Garry, *Lincoln at Gettysburg* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1992)



## ALLUSION

Four score and seven years ago [Psalm 90: life is “threescore years and ten”](#) our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. [Allusion to Declaration of Independence](#)

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, [under God](#), shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. [Allusion to the Preamble to the Constitution](#)



I carefully put my words together.

Jefferson gave us our birth certificate.

There was an tremendous payment on the future of that country made right here four months earlier.

<https://youtu.be/iBSzYztpPFI>

*Inside Lincoln's Mind: The Night Before the Gettysburg Address*

What was President Abraham Lincoln thinking the night before he gave the historic Gettysburg Address? Steven B. Wiley, president of the Lincoln Leadership Institute at Gettysburg (Video by W. Zach Starr, (2009)

## BIRTH & LIFE

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a **new nation**, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so **conceived** and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation **might live**. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

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## INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE/AMAPHORA

Four score and seven years ago **our** fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now **we** are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. **We** are met on a great battle-field of that war. **We** have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that **we** should do this.

But, in a larger sense, **we** can not dedicate -- **we** can not consecrate -- **we** can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above **our** poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what **we** say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for **us** the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for **us** to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before **us** -- that from these honored dead **we** take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that **we** here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## REPETITION – “here”

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who **here** gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled **here**, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say **here**, but it can never forget what they did **here**. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated **here** to the unfinished work which they who fought **here** have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be **here** dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## TRICOLON/PARALLELISM

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, **we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow** -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government **of the people, by the people, for the people**, shall not perish from the earth.

His audience must not dedicate but *be* dedicated



## ANTITHESIS/CONTRAST

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a **final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live**. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, **living and dead**, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to **add or detract**. The **world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here**. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.





“That speech, uttered at the field of Gettysburg...and now sanctified by the martyrdom of its author, is a monumental act. In the modesty of his nature he said ‘the world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here.’ He was mistaken. The world at once noted what he said, and will never cease to remember it.”

Senator Charles Sumner (Mass)

Four score and seven years ago our **f**athers brought **f**orth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-**f**ield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that **f**ield, as a **f**inal resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether **f**itting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our **p**oor **p**ower to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## Complexity (A = simple, E = complex)

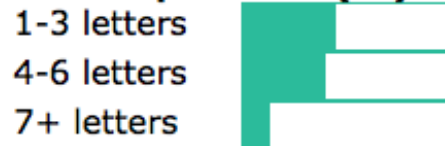
A =   
B =   
C =   
D =   
E = 

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. // Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. // But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## Complexity (%)

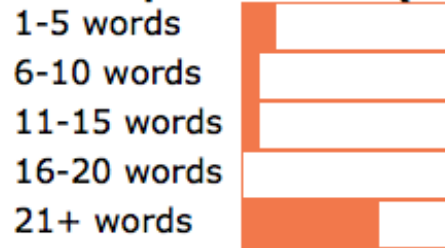


## Letters per word (%)



Longest word: 12 letters

## Words per sentence (%)



Words: 268

Sentences: 10

Average sentence length: 23 words

Average syllables per sentence: 37

Average syllabus per word: 1.38

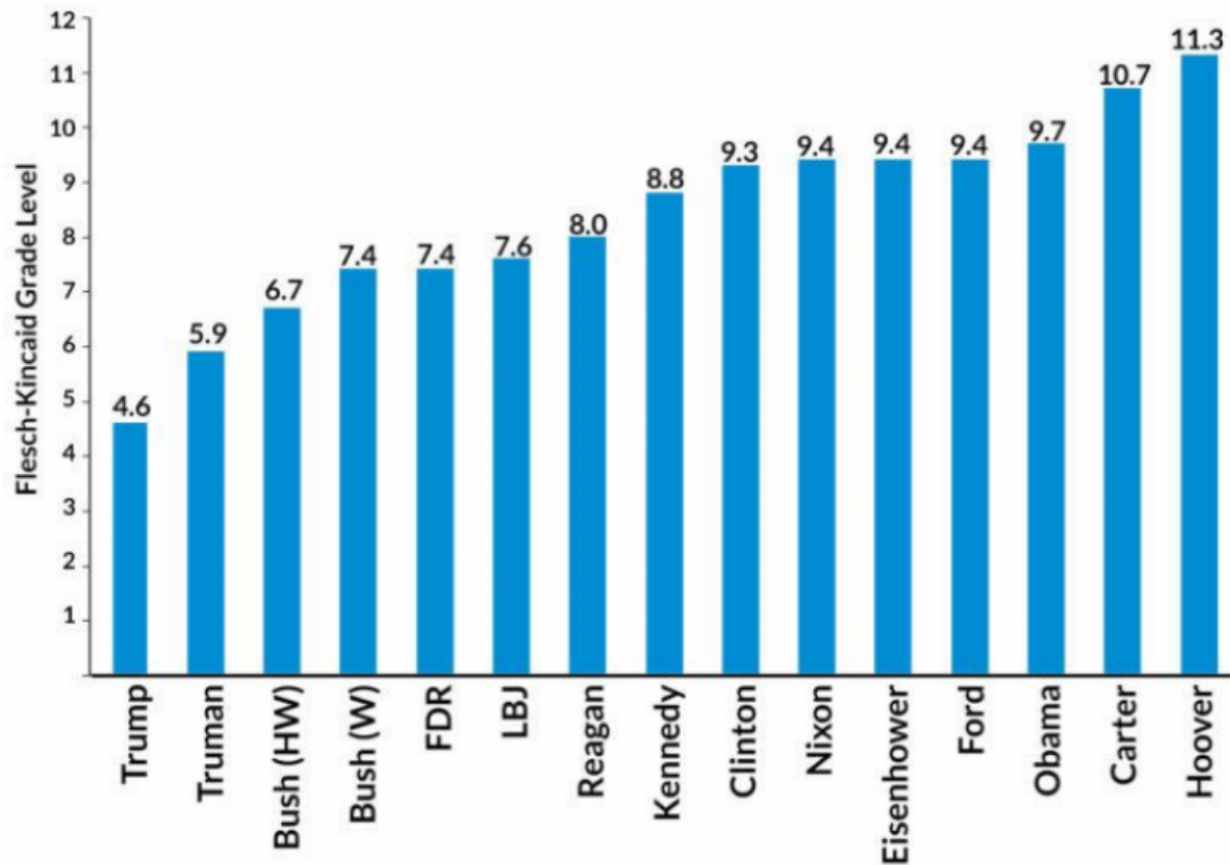
Flesch-Kincaid Grade: 9.55

85% of the public can read 8 or lower

Gunning Fog Index (words with many syllables as a measure of reading difficulty): 12.28 – US high school senior (around 18 years old)

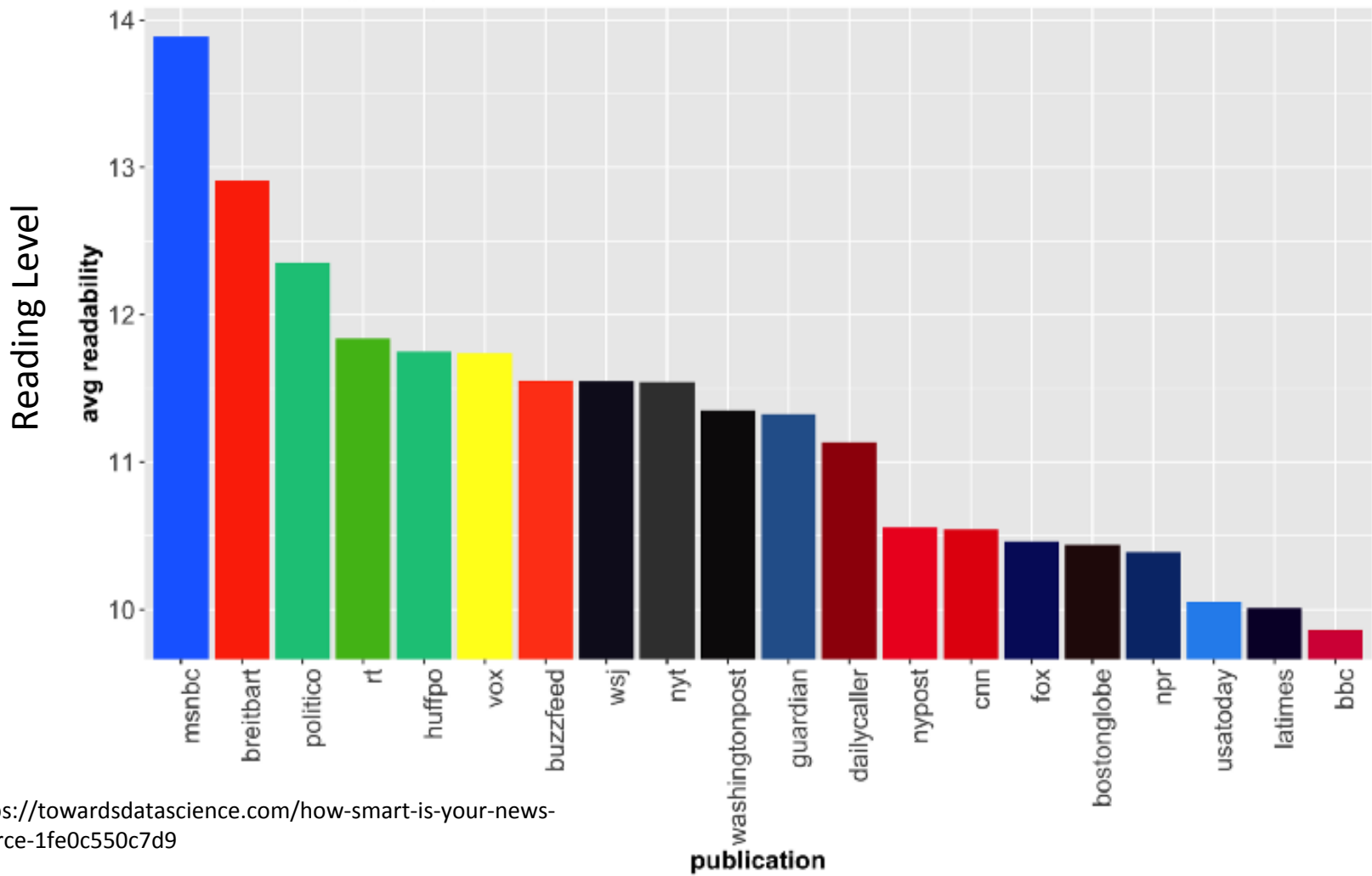
Christian Watson, Write Better: Online Readability Testing Tools Compared, 2007  
<https://www.smileycat.com/write-better-online-readability-testing-tools-compared/>

## Presidential Vocabulary By Grade Level Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level

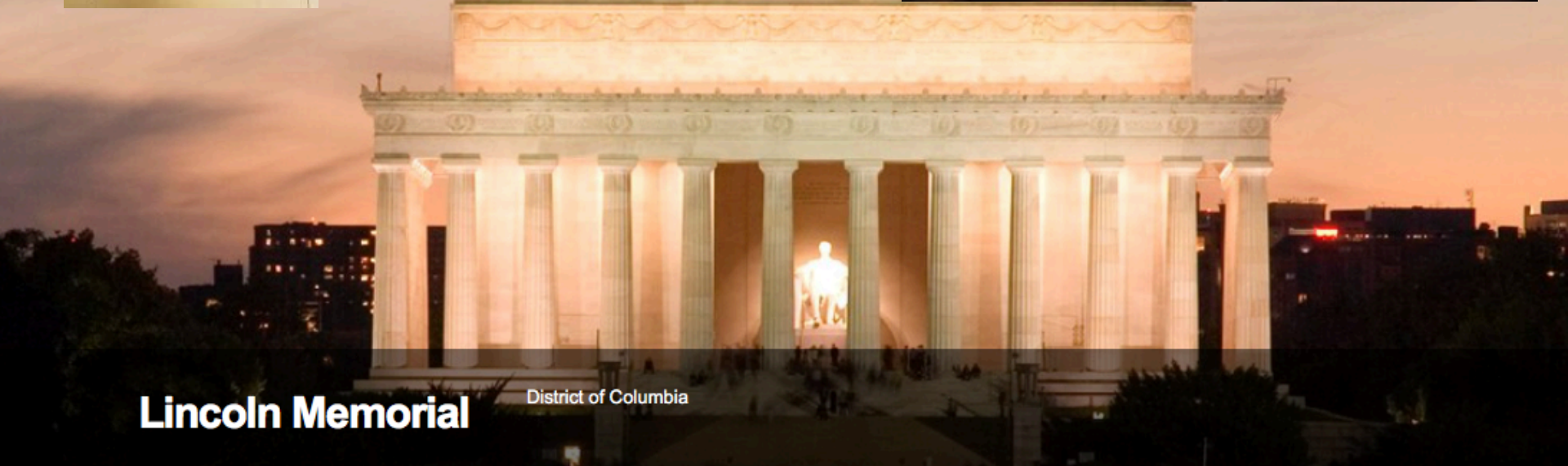
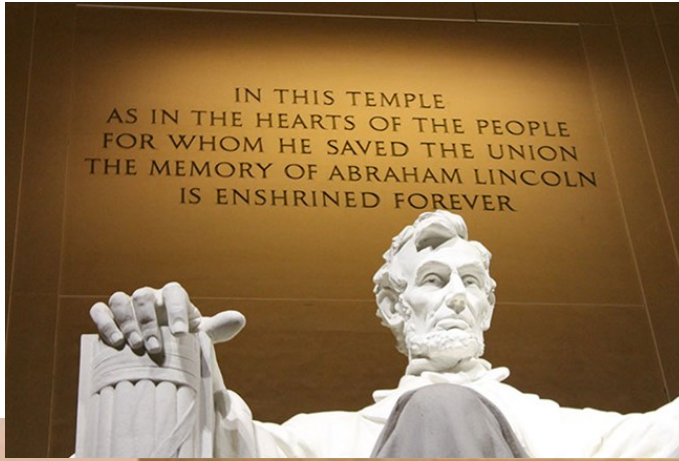


Joe Biden's  
inaugural  
address: 6.3

News Publication by Average Readability



<https://towardsdatascience.com/how-smart-is-your-news-source-1fe0c550c7d9>

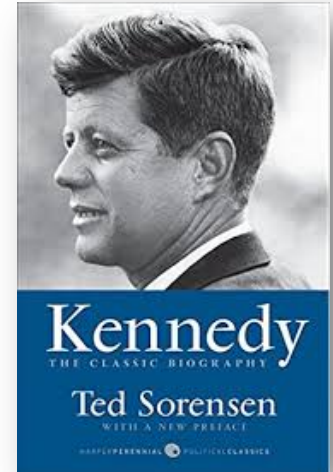


**Lincoln Memorial**

District of Columbia

I may have been more moved by his remarks at the Gettysburg cemetery when I read them behind his statue at the state capitol in Lincoln in 1939 than were some of those straining to hear them on the outskirts of the audience at Gettysburg in 1863.

– Ted Sorensen



Ted Sorensen on Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Words (October 2008)  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/ted-sorensen-on-abraham-lincoln-a-man-of-his-words-12048177/>





## NVCC TV: PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC SPEAKING COURSE

SPD 100 - 01 Introduction to Public Speaking <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/s4DRc73M>

SPD 100 - 02 Dealing with Speech Anxiety <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Ty5s8E2A>

SPD 100 - 03 Preparing Your First Talk <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Hs3k8JZd>

SPD 100 - 04 The Structure of a Talk <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Kx6j5H7L>

SPD 100 - 05 Stylistic Considerations <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Ag4p9NCi>

SPD 100 - 06 Researching a Talk <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/y2C6DnNz>

SPD 100 - 07 Delivery Talk <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/s2G9AbQz>

SPD 100 - 08 Persuasive Speaking <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/r9Z4Jqi6>

SPD 100 - 09 Listening Skills <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Le4q2M9Z>

SPD 100 - 10 Fine Tuning a Speech <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/Hx76Znr3>

SPD 100 - 11 Special Occasion Speaking <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/g5SKz4j7>

SPD 100 - 12 Developing Your Voice <https://vod02.nvcc.edu/Watch/s3NEb97S>



Adam Gault, 2010

<https://youtu.be/FsrDeGJUZdQ>

Read by Mitch Rapoport.

Design and animation by Adam Gault and Stefanie Augustine.

Sound design by Chris Villepigue | [songloft.com](http://songloft.com)

Additional animation by Carlo Vega.



Let us ask ourselves how it is these words have endured the test of time, especially in current times. We suffer today from what the late historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. said was "**too much pluribus and not enough unum.**" Few things survive in these cynical days to remind us of the union from which so many of our personal, as well as collective, blessings flow.

# *The Address* (2014) Ken Burns

Indeed, we have to look no further than the story of a tiny school in Putney, Vermont, the Greenwood School, to understand why this speech above so many others survives. Each year at the school students are challenged to memorize and then publicly recite the Gettysburg Address. These students, boys 11 to 17, all face a range of complex learning differences that make their personal, academic and social progress challenging.

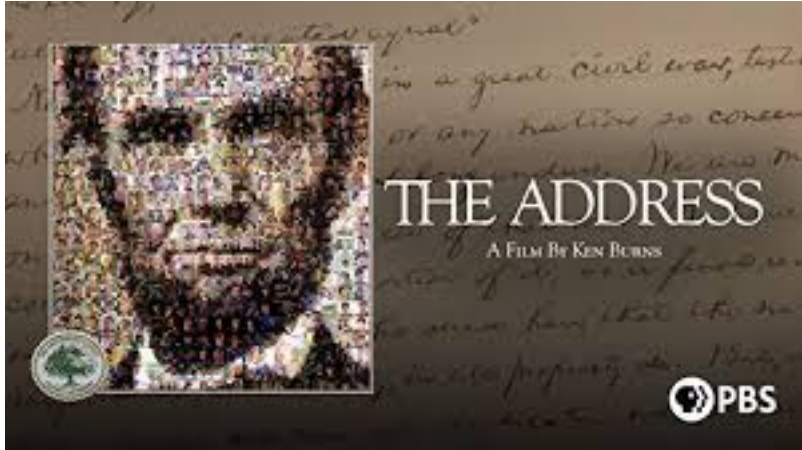


<https://www.pbs.org/video/address-trailer/>

Christian Voltaire, age 2

<https://youtu.be/dvlsco7ux4g>





# *Learn the Address* MashUp 2013

<https://youtu.be/ndmcgAsA1aI>



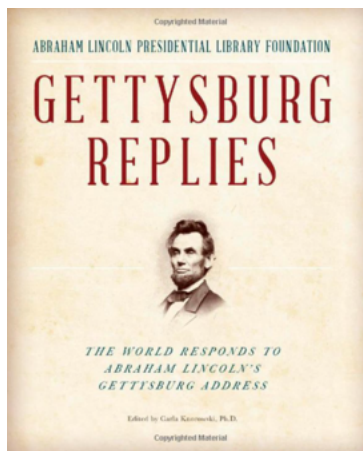








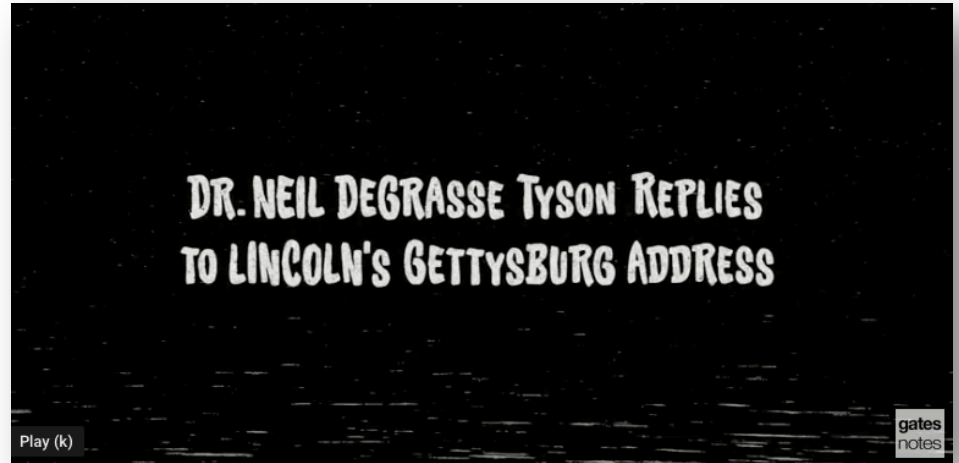




In April 2015, the astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson accepted the National Academy of Science's most prestigious award. His brilliant acceptance speech makes the argument for ensuring that science plays a big role in policymaking. Inspired by the short and eloquent Gettysburg Address, Dr. Tyson makes his case in just 272 words.

- Bill Gates

<https://youtu.be/9w870glQOOg>

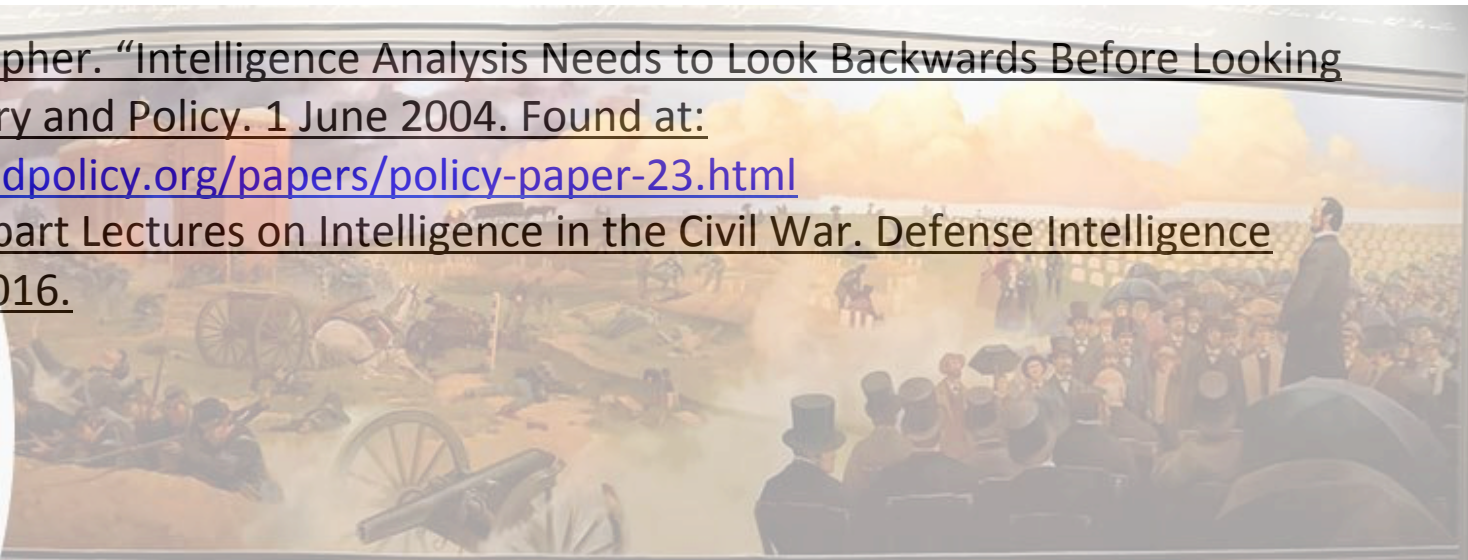
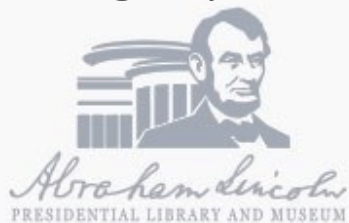


According to noted intelligence historian Christopher Andrew, the Intelligence Community is suffering from Historical Attention Span Deficit Disorder (HASDD), or a reluctance to look at the past to inform our understanding of the present and assist in forecasting the future. At Defense Intelligence Agency, analysts have been working to prevent HASDD from setting in. Since 2008, DIA has sponsored dozens of battlefield staff rides for Department of Defense and Intelligence Community personnel examining lessons learned from the past for application today.

Andrew, Christopher. "Intelligence Analysis Needs to Look Backwards Before Looking Forward." History and Policy. 1 June 2004. Found at:

<http://historyandpolicy.org/papers/policy-paper-23.html>

Elder, Greg. 20-part Lectures on Intelligence in the Civil War. Defense Intelligence Agency. 2008-2016.



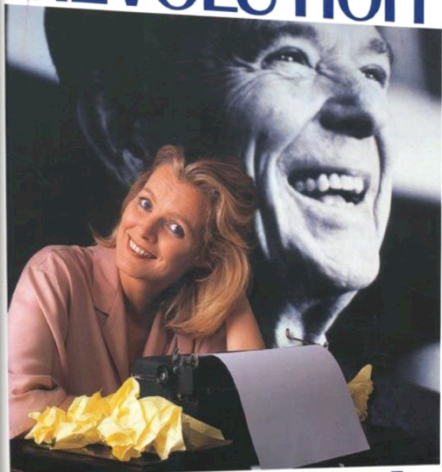


Bob Newhart  
*Abe Lincoln vs Madison Avenue*  
Rhino/Warner Records

<https://youtu.be/dciz7VAIjYs>



# WHAT I SAW AT THE REVOLUTION



A Political Life in the Reagan Era  
**PEGGY NOONAN**

PEGGY NOONAN  
A Political Life in the Reagan Era

## WHAT THE STAFFING PROCESS WOULD DO TO THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

~~SOMETIME AGO~~  
~~LONG AGO~~  
~~SEVENTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO.~~

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth <sup>here</sup> this continent, a new nation, <sup>CREATED</sup> conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the <sup>idea</sup> proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are <sup>engaged</sup> in a great civil war, testing whether (that nation) or any nation so <sup>and mother</sup> conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we do so. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they . . .

*what's to occur here? delete!*

*what's to occur here? delete!*

*what's to occur here? delete!*

*let's talk about what we can do!*

*why highlight that?*

*too much sexual imagery. Sounds like we're talking about teen pregnancy and woman*

*sounds defensive. This isn't just a photo op (is it?)*

*and woman*

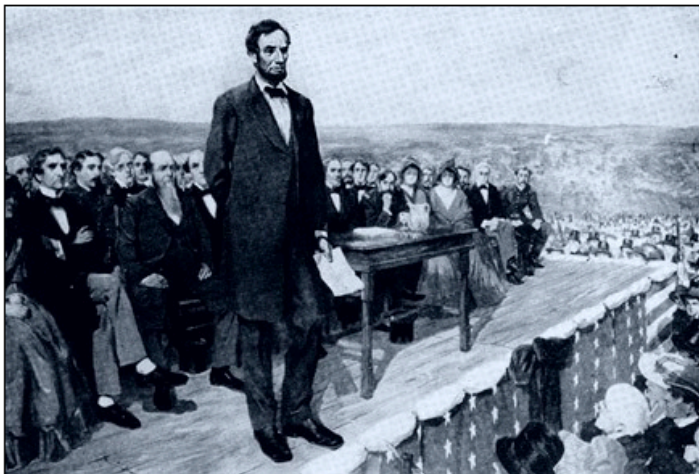
*this is un-presidential. Reagan doesn't have poor power*



# American Rhetoric

Online Speech Bank

delivered 19 November 1863



Johnny Cash  
Jeff Daniels  
James Getty  
William F. Hooley  
Colin Powell  
Sam Waterston

▶ ◀ ▶ ▶ ↺ 00:00 / 02:17 🔊

1	Johnny Cash - Performance of Gettysburg Address	02:17
2	Jeff Daniels - Performance of Gettysburg Address	02:28
3	James Getty - Performance of Gettysburg Address	02:03
4	William F. Hooley - Performance of Gettysburg Address	01:51
5	Colin Powell - Reading of the Gettysburg Address	01:54
6	Sam Waterston - Performance of Gettysburg Address	02:17

[americanrhetoric.com/speeches/gettysburgaddress](http://americanrhetoric.com/speeches/gettysburgaddress)

Peter Norvig

Summary  
Slide for the  
Gettysburg  
Address

## Summary

- New nation
- Civil war
- Dedicate field
- Dedicated to unfinished work
- New birth of freedom
- Government not perish

11/19/1863

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[next](#)