SOURCE A

This is an extract from a summary on Dr Martin Luther King Jr taken from an American history website.

As the unquestioned* leader of the peaceful Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s, Dr Martin Luther King Jr. was at the same time one of the most beloved and one of the most hated men of his time. From his involvement in the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955 until his untimely death in 1968, King's message of change through peaceful means added to the movement's numbers and gave it its moral strength. The legacy* of Martin Luther King Jr. is embodied* in these two simple words: equality and nonviolence ... Time magazine had named him 'Man of the Year' in 1963. In 1964, he won the Nobel Peace Prize and was described as 'the first person in the Western world to have shown us that a struggle can be waged without violence.'

[Adapted from: US History Pre-Columbian to the New Millennium.
Available at: <http://www.ushistory.org/us/54f.asp 6 January 2019>
Accessed 3 January 2018]

*unquestioned – unchallenged
*legacy – by which someone is remembered
*embodied – symbolised or expressed

SOURCE B

This is an extract from a review (by Dr Joe Street from the University of Sheffield, Britain) of the book, Martin Luther King Jr, by author John Kirk; published in 2005.

Studies of King and the Civil Rights Movement have passed through three ... phases. The initial surge* of civil rights scholarship depicted King as the leader of the movement, suggesting that the movement took its cue from King's leadership of mass protest throughout the South. These works often directly relate the legislative successes of the mid-1960s ...

A second wave of scholarship ... suggested that local leaders in the South were perhaps as important to the dismantling of segregation as King. ... King’s leadership relied on a vast network of local leaders, and in some cases undercut* King's claims to greatness.

... We are now in a third period, where studies are focused more on interactivity, between national and local, politics and culture and ... leaders and the led. .... King’s leadership was largely interactive and heavily reliant upon the work of friends, colleagues and a vast network of ... activists ... That King brought the media with him certainly aided local efforts to challenge white supremacy, yet his departure presaged* the departure of the media, leaving local leaders to deal with the backlash* from resentful* white communities and exhausted black communities.

[Adapted from: Dr Joe Street, review of Martin Luther King Jr, (review no. 460)
Available at: <https://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/review/460>
Accessed: 5 January, 2019]

*surge – outpouring or stream
*undercut – weakened
*presaged – signified or predicted
*backlash – reaction
*resentful – angry and bitter
... It would be more appropriate to congratulate the Civil Rights Movement for ... having as its symbolic leader a man like King. The fact that he has more prestige than power ... the intellectual simplicity of his philosophy; ... his friendship with the man in the White House – all are essential to the role he plays, and invaluable* for the success of the movement ...

One aspect of the ... King myth* has been the depiction of him in the mass media, not only as the ... leader of the Civil Rights Movement, but also as the initiator* and sole indispensable* element in the southern [African American] struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. ... the myth emphasises the individual at the expense of the [African American] movement; it not only exaggerates King's historical importance but also distorts* his actual, considerable contribution to the movement ...

... Recently, scholars have begun to examine the black struggle as a locally based mass movement. ... King was certainly not the only significant leader of the Civil Rights Movement, for sustained protest movements arose in many southern communities in which King had little or no direct involvement ... Though King influenced the struggles that took place in ... Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, those movements were also guided by ... local leaders who occasionally called on King's oratorical* skills to galvanise* ... protestors at mass meetings while refusing to depend on his presence.


*invaluable – extremely important
*myth – legend or story often containing inaccuracy
*initiator – the person who starts a process
*indispensable – very important
*distorts – misrepresents
*oratorical – speechmaking
*galvanise – rouse or stir up
**SOURCE D**

This is an extract from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) website.

When the sit-ins erupted* on February 1, 1960, [King] immediately recognised their significance, declaring just two weeks later at a Durham, North Carolina, mass meeting, 'What is fresh, what is new in your fight is the fact that it was initiated*, fed, and sustained* by students.'… Rev. King had hoped the students would decide to become the student wing of his organisation, [Southern Christian Leadership Conference] SCLC. The students decided they would not. But though deciding against this affiliation*, SNCC and SCLC would cross paths frequently throughout the 1960s … SNCC workers recognised and respected the fact that Rev. King was beloved in the communities where they worked.

[Available at: <https://snccdigital.org/people/martin-luther-king-jr/> Accessed 5 January 2019]

*erupted – started suddenly
*initiated – started
*sustained – continued to exist or carried on
*affiliation – association or connection with a group

**SOURCE E**

This is an extract from an American history website.

The SNCC or Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee … soon became one of the movement's more radical* branches. In the wake of the Greensboro sit-in at a lunch counter … Ella Baker, then director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), helped set up the first meeting of what became the SNCC. She was concerned that SCLC, led by Martin Luther King Jr., was out of touch with younger African Americans who wanted the movement to make faster progress. Baker encouraged those who formed SNCC to look beyond integration to broader social change and to view King's principle of nonviolence more as a political tactic than a way of life. The new group played a large part in the Freedom Rides aimed at desegregating buses and in the marches organised by Martin Luther King Jr. and the SCLC … the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee also directed much of the … voter registration drives in the South. Three of its members died at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan during the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964 … In 1966, Stokely Carmichael was elected head of SNCC and popularised* the term 'black power' to characterise the new tactics and goals …

[Adapted from: SNCC, History.com Editors, 12 November 2009. Available at: <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/sncc> Accessed 6 January 2019]

*radical – extreme
*popularised – promote or make popular
SOURCE F

This is an extract from an interview conducted in 2018 with John Lewis, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and one of the leaders who organised the 1963 March on Washington.

It was in Nashville that I got involved in the sit-ins and, later, the Freedom Rides. We were beaten and left bloody and unconscious at the Greyhound bus station in Montgomery during the Freedom Rides in '61. King was there, at the same church where I first met him ... [A white mob] attempted to burn the church ... and King made a call to [Attorney General] Robert Kennedy, and [he] intervened and put the city of Montgomery under martial law. He inspired me. He lifted me. He was a brave and courageous person, and when you would listen to him speak or talk to you, you were ready to go out there and put your life on the line, because he made it so plain and so clear that it was the right thing to do.


SOURCE G

This is an extract from an article called 'Before he had his "Dream", King wrote a letter' written by W. Ralph Eubanks, an American author, published in the Washington Post in 2005.

... King's 'I Have a Dream' speech is ... one of the great orations* of the 20th century. ... We must never forget King's dream; but let us also not forget the nightmares he struggled with before and after ... And he captured those in the ... letter he wrote to eight Alabama clergymen* that April, a mere four months before his famous speech at the Lincoln Memorial ... 'I am in Birmingham because injustice is here,' King wrote ... After King was jailed on a charge of parading without a permit, he wrote the 'Letter from a Birmingham Jail' ... The letter brought attention to the Birmingham movement and added to King's fame.


*orations – speeches
*clergy – church ministers and priests
SOURCE H

This photograph is of Dr Martin Luther King Jr taken on 28 August 1963, on the National Mall in Washington, during the 'March on Washington.'

Accessed 4 January 2019]