***2021 Most Influential person award Winston Churchill***

In this joyous hour, in these memorable minutes, in these prolonged seconds, I will officially announce the winner of the 2021 Most Influential Person Award in 5… 4… 3… 2… 1… WINSTON CHURCHILL! (I love this opening! It feels so authentic to a speech, and I love the energy and tension you create) In this speech that I am about to deliver, I will summarise the key events of the life of Winston Churchill and the long-lasting impact has brought on the country and even the world. (great introduction)

Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was born on the 30th of November 1874 into a wealthy family. His father was Lord Randolph Churchill (who died just 21 years later!) and his mother was called Lady Randolph Churchill (who died in 1925). Churchill did not show any signs of a being a child prodigy when he was young, in fact he was almost the opposite. (although this information is good, I would sacrifice it for more focused analysis of some key points of his life and work) According to Winston Churchill’s first headmaster in 1880 he describes Churchill as, “A incredibly ignorant little boy with no signs of intelligence.” (remember to close with speech marks too!) (amazing use of a quotation though) Despite these flaws, Winston overall was an “OK” student. In about 1889 when Churchill was still only fourteen, Lady Randolph Churchill decided that it would be best for him to leave school and join the army, Winston was required to take an exam to get into Harrow’s School. He failed two times! It was only on the third go that Winston Churchill manged to pass the exam. (instead of giving us the information and moving on, could you expand on the morals we can learn here, about perseverance and tenacity? This would be so sophisticated) In the next six years, Churchill was trained as a Cavalry troop (Someone who fights and rides a horse). In 1895, on hearing his father’s death, he was, of course, devastated by the news but could not go home as he was fighting in the Second Boer War. In 1898, Winston Churchill celebrated his 24th birthday still fighting the war, flying in a plane across Cuba. (it’s obvious that you’ve really researched this piece, I’m super impressed)

At the turn of the 20th Century, Churchill decided to turn his hopes of his career to Politics. In 1908, he made his first public speech in Oldham that came out with great public success. During the First World War, Churchill was given the title, The First Secretary To The Admiralty and, in 1915 Churchill was the one who introduced tanks into battle. (a fascinating fact!) In 1908, Winston Churchill married Clementine Hozier and they had five children together. (again, we run into the problem of too much information, not enough analysis) In the 1930s Winston Churchill was made the Chancellor of the Exchequer and was the assistant to the Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin. In 1937, Neville Chamberlain became the new Prime Minister. When Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia in 1938, Chamberlain tried to appease Hitler meaning to make a peace agreement, this however failed, and Chamberlain was forced to declare war on Germany on the 3rd of September 1939. Chamberlain resigned in May 1940 and Winston Churchill took over. Many of his famous and inspiring speeches were first said in this period, here are some examples: “I can offer nothing but blood, toil, tears and sweat.” (I really love that you’ve included parts of his speeches; this is such a nice touch!) (8th September 1940) “We shall fight in the landing grounds, we shall fight in the streets, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall never surrender.” (1941) After the war in 1945, Churchill lost the election. But in 1951, was once again elected Prime Minister and resigned in 1955. He retired from politics in 1957 at the age of 83. Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill died in 1965 at the rightful age of 91. (I like how respectful your tone is throughout this speech) His funeral was arguably the largest ever and was watched by more than 600 million people worldwide. (could you analyse this a little? Be more clear that this shows his popularity) Everybody wished to forget the horrible World War One and Two, but everybody remembered that Winston Churchill was a hero.

So vote Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill.

Today. (a powerful ending!)

**What Went Well:**

This is a wonderful speech, Benjamin! I’m so impressed with the amount of research that has been put into this, with a comprehensive re-telling of Churchill’s whole life, birth to death. I love the quotations you used, both from Churchill himself, and those who knew him. Your tone throughout is very respectful, and I love your introduction and conclusion, with the strong calls to vote for him for the prize. The opening line is particularly profound, with the power of three of, ‘joyous…memorable…prolonged.’ SO nice!

**Even Better If…:**

I think the one downfall here is that it reads like a History essay, more than an English essay. What I would have loved to see is a few main paragraphs, each focusing on a different trait of his, possibly. This way, you could use the amazing research you’ve done as evidence in Point, Evidence, Explanation paragraphs. This way, we would get some analysis. For example, when you say 600 million people watched his funeral, you could then talk about how this shows his popularity with the people so well. This would also allow you to use more creative techniques, such as rhetorical questions, imagery, direct address. Always keep in mind that I’m marking your creative writing technique more than I’m marking your historical knowledge.

Overall, an impressive piece, well done! 😊