

Trailblazers of Change: A Social Studies / History Sorting Challenge

Learning objective: To recognise the achievements and contributions of significant Black historical figures, understanding their impact on British and world society.

Ellie the elephant has been reading her history books and has gathered a list of amazing people! Your task is to sequence these events and match the historical figures to their incredible achievements. Read the clues below and sort them into the correct order on your timeline, then match the person to their contribution.

Word bank: Mary Seacole · Walter Tull · Olaudah Equiano · Timeline · Pioneer · Courage · Campaigner

1. Place these three figures in chronological order based on when they lived: Mary Seacole (1805–1881), Walter Tull (1888–1918), and Olaudah Equiano (c. 1745–1797). (3 marks)

2. Match the person to their achievement: Olaudah Equiano wrote an autobiography to help end the slave trade; Mary Seacole helped wounded soldiers in the Crimean War; Walter Tull was a professional footballer and a brave army officer. Write the correct name next to the description. (3 marks)

3. Why do we celebrate Black Social Studies / History Month? Think about how learning about these people helps us understand our history better. (2 marks)

4. True or False: Mary Seacole was prevented from helping soldiers at first because of her background, but she opened her own 'British Hotel' to care for them anyway. (1 mark)

5. If you could ask one of these historical figures a question about their life, who would it be and what would you ask? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp honouring one of these three historical figures. Include symbols that represent their work, such as a medicine bottle for Mary Seacole, a football for Walter Tull, or a quill pen for Olaudah Equiano.



Extension challenge: Research a local Black historical figure from your own town or city. Write a short paragraph explaining why they are important to your local history and draw a map showing where they lived or worked.