

Social Studies / History Assessment: The Fight for the Vote

Learning objective: To understand the significance of the Suffragette movement and the role of Emmeline Pankhurst in the campaign for women's suffrage in the early 20th century.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Remember to use your best handwriting and check your spelling.

In the early 1900s, women in the United Kingdom were not allowed to vote in general elections. While many people believed this was unfair, some women decided to take direct action to change the law. Led by Emmeline Pankhurst, the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) was formed in 1903. These women, known as Suffragettes, used bold methods like marches, public speeches, and petitions to demand that women be given the same rights as men. Their motto was 'Deeds, not words'.

Word bank: Suffragette · Emmeline Pankhurst · Parliament · Campaign · Protest · Equality · Votes for Women · Democracy

1. Identify the primary goal of the Suffragette movement led by Emmeline Pankhurst. (1 mark)

2. What was the famous motto of the WSPU, and what do you think it meant for the women involved in the campaign? (2 marks)

3. Explain why the Suffragettes felt that writing letters or speaking was not enough to change the laws in Parliament. (3 marks)

4. Compare the methods used by the Suffragettes to peaceful ways people might protest today. Give one similarity and one difference. (4 marks)

5. Justify why many historians consider Emmeline Pankhurst an influential figure in British history. (4 marks)

6. What might have happened if the Suffragettes had decided to give up their campaign when they faced opposition? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Imagine you are a reporter in 1910. Write a short news article (approx. 80-100 words) describing a Suffragette march. Include why they are marching and what they hope to achieve for the future of British democracy. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a banner that a Suffragette might have carried during a march. Include a powerful slogan and symbols that represent the fight for equality.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research the difference between 'Suffragists' and 'Suffragettes'. Write a paragraph comparing their different approaches to achieving the vote and decide which method you believe was more effective in the long term, justifying your opinion with historical evidence.