

Social Studies / History Assessment: The Fight for Votes

Learning objective: To understand the movement for women's suffrage in the early 20th century, including the roles of the Suffragists and Suffragettes.

Read each question carefully before writing your answer. Ensure you use historical vocabulary where appropriate. Answer all questions in full sentences where requested.

In the early 1900s, women in the UK were not allowed to vote in parliamentary elections. Two main groups campaigned for this right. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS), led by Millicent Fawcett, believed in peaceful protest and were known as Suffragists. The Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU), led by Emmeline Pankhurst, felt that peaceful methods were too slow. They became known as Suffragettes and used more direct, militant actions to ensure their message was heard by the government.

Word bank: Suffragists · Suffragettes · Emmeline Pankhurst · Millicent Fawcett · Parliament · Votes for Women · Campaign · Equality · Protest

1. What was the main goal that both the Suffragists and the Suffragettes were trying to achieve? (2 marks)

2. Explain one key difference between the methods used by the Suffragists and the methods used by the Suffragettes. (3 marks)

3. Name the leader of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). (1 mark)

4. Why did some women feel that peaceful protesting was not working? Give a reason for their frustration. (4 marks)

5. Ellie the elephant has a great memory for history. She remembers that the 'Representation of the People Act' was passed in 1918. Why was this act a significant turning point in British history? (5 marks)

6. Imagine you were living in 1910. Write a short slogan you might put on a banner to support the campaign for women's votes. (5 marks)

7. If a protest banner cost £2.50 to make and a sash cost £1.75, how much would it cost for a group of four women to buy one of each item? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a historical protest poster that a Suffragette might have carried during a march in London, including colours like purple, white, and green.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Find out which year women were finally granted equal voting rights to men in the UK (the same age requirement). Write down the year and explain why this was considered the final step in the campaign.