

The Fight for Equality: The Suffragette Movement

Learning objective: To understand the significance of the Suffragette movement and explain the methods used by campaigners to achieve the vote for women.

Use this writing frame to construct a balanced historical report. Ensure you use evidence from your research and connectives to explain the causes and consequences of the campaign.

In the early 20th century, the landscape of British politics began to shift as courageous women known as Suffragettes stood up to demand the right to vote.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · nevertheless · in addition to · campaigner · suffrage · demonstration · inequality · fundamental · determined

1. The Need for Change: Explain why women felt that the current political system was unfair in the early 1900s. Start with: Women were frustrated because... (2 marks)

2. Campaigning Methods: Describe the different ways Suffragettes raised awareness for their cause. Start with: To ensure their voices were heard, campaigners decided to... (2 marks)

3. Justifying Actions: Why did the Suffragettes feel that more extreme measures were necessary compared to the Suffragists? Start with: Some campaigners argued that peaceful methods were insufficient because... (3 marks)

4. Comparing Perspectives: How might a member of the government have responded to the Suffragettes at the time? Start with: On the other hand, those in power often viewed the demonstrations as... (3 marks)

5. The Impact of the Movement: Explain the long-term significance of the Suffragette movement for modern society. Start with: The legacy of the Suffragettes is evident today because... (3 marks)

6. Critical Reflection: If you were living in 1910, what questions would you have asked a Suffragette leader? Start with: If I had the opportunity to interview a campaigner, I would ask... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the methods of the Suffragettes with other historical groups who fought for civil rights. Justify your opinion on whether you believe their 'deeds not words' slogan was an effective strategy for change. What might have happened if they had chosen to remain entirely silent?