

Black History Month: Pioneers and Perspectives

Learning objective: To develop an understanding of significant figures in Black history and the importance of celebrating diverse contributions to society.

Read each flashcard carefully. Use the front to test your knowledge of key figures and concepts, then check the back to deepen your understanding of their historical impact.

Who was Mary Seacole?

A Jamaican-born nurse who set up the 'British Hotel' behind the lines during the Crimean War to provide food, medicine, and comfort to wounded soldiers.

What does the term 'Legacy' mean in the context of history?

The long-lasting impact of particular events, actions, or people that continues to influence future generations.

Who was Olaudah Equiano?

An author and abolitionist who was enslaved as a child; his autobiography helped the British public understand the horrors of the slave trade, influencing the 1807 Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

Why is Black History Month celebrated in the UK during October?

It was first celebrated in 1987 to provide an opportunity to recognise and value the often-overlooked contributions of Black people to British history and culture.

Who was Walter Tull?

A professional footballer and the first Black officer to lead white British soldiers into battle during the First World War.

Explain the significance of the Windrush Generation.

People who arrived in the UK from Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1971 to help rebuild Britain after the Second World War, bringing diverse cultures and skills.

What is meant by the word 'Trailblazer'?

A person who is the first to do something, paving the way for others to follow in their footsteps.

Who was Claudia Jones?

A journalist and activist who founded the first major Black British newspaper, the West Indian Gazette, and helped launch the Notting Hill Carnival.

Compare the contributions of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale.

Both were influential nurses during the Crimean War, while Nightingale was officially commissioned, Seacole self-funded her journey to the front lines to help soldiers.

Justify why it is important to study diverse histories throughout the year, not just in October.

Because history is a shared narrative, understanding the contributions of all people provides a more accurate and complete view of how our society was built.