

Unsung Heroes: A Biography Writing Frame

Learning objective: To research and compose a formal biography of an influential Black historical figure, using cohesive devices and descriptive language to engage the reader.

Use this scaffold to structure your biography. Begin by selecting a significant historical figure. Research their early life, their primary achievements, and the lasting impact they have made on society. Ensure you use formal language and connectives to link your ideas.

History is often shaped by the courageous actions of individuals whose stories deserve to be celebrated and remembered for generations to come.

Word bank: Furthermore · Consequently · In addition to · A significant turning point · Nevertheless · Legacy · Overcome adversity · Distinguished · Groundbreaking · Subsequently

1. Introduction: Who is the person you have chosen, and why is their contribution to history considered significant? Start with: 'A truly remarkable figure who helped shape the world is...' (2 marks)

2. Early Life and Background: Describe where and when they were born, and mention any early influences. Start with: 'Born in..., their early childhood was defined by...' (3 marks)

3. Overcoming Adversity: Explain the challenges they faced and how they demonstrated resilience. Start with: 'Despite facing significant obstacles such as..., they remained determined to...' (3 marks)

4. Major Achievements: Detail the key events or breakthroughs they are famous for. Start with: 'The defining moment of their career occurred when...' (4 marks)

5. Legacy and Impact: Compare how the world changed because of their work. Start with: 'The impact of their efforts is still evident today because...' (3 marks)

6. Conclusion: Justify why this person should be remembered in modern times. Start with: 'Ultimately, we must remember this individual because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Explain why historical narratives sometimes omit certain voices and how we can ensure a more inclusive view of history. 2. Compare and contrast the challenges faced by your chosen figure with those faced by a modern-day activist. 3. What might happen if this individual had not taken their stand? 4. Justify your answer: Does a person's environment or their personal character have a greater influence on their success? 5. Write a short poem, in the style of Leo the Lion, celebrating the bravery of your chosen subject. 6. If you could interview this person today, which three sophisticated questions would you ask to further understand their motivations?