

Year 5 History Assessment: Pioneers of Change

Learning objective: To evaluate the significance of key figures in Black history and understand their impact on societal progress in Britain and beyond.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed, accurate responses. Ensure your explanations are supported by facts.

History is shaped by individuals who possess the courage to challenge unfair systems. From the brave abolitionists who campaigned against the slave trade, to the modern-day figures who fought for equality and representation, these leaders have transformed the fabric of British society. Their stories are not just about the past; they are the foundation for the values of fairness and justice we uphold today. Ellie the elephant, who loves history, reminds us that remembering these stories helps us build a kinder future for everyone.

Word bank: Abolitionist · Injustice · Civil Rights · Pioneer · Legacy · Campaigner · Inequality · Contribution

1. Define the term 'abolitionist'. Why was the work of abolitionists considered dangerous during the 18th and 19th centuries? (2 marks)

2. Identify one significant figure in Black history who fought for Civil Rights. Explain one specific action they took to create change. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the challenges faced by campaigners in the 19th century with those faced by activists in the 20th century. What remained the same? (4 marks)

4. Justify why it is important for modern historians to document the contributions of Black Britons throughout history, rather than focusing only on major political events. (4 marks)

5. Explain why the 'Windrush Generation' is a significant turning point in 20th-century British history. How did their arrival influence the culture and economy of the UK? (4 marks)

6. Writing Task: You are a journalist writing an article for a local newspaper. Select one historical figure you have studied. Write an obituary or a commemorative piece explaining their legacy and why their life should be celebrated by future generations. (5 marks)

7. What might happen if the stories of these pioneers were omitted from the national curriculum? Discuss the impact on society's collective memory. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp design that represents the legacy of a Black historical figure. Include symbols that reflect their specific achievements or the era in which they lived.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Creative Challenge: Design a proposal for a new public statue in your town dedicated to an unsung hero of Black history. Write a 100-word pitch justifying your choice of location and the symbolism used in the statue's design.