

Historical Figures of Change: A Fact-File Investigation

Learning objective: To research and analyse the significant contributions of historical figures in the movement for civil rights and equality.

Choose a historical figure who campaigned for civil rights. Use your research skills to fill in the sections below. Think deeply about the challenges they faced and how their actions shaped the world we live in today. Use the word bank to help refine your explanations.

Word bank: Equality · Injustice · Legislation · Activism · Advocate · Perseverance · Discrimination · Human rights · Systemic · Impact

1. Personal Context: Who is the individual, and what was the specific 'injustice' or inequality they were trying to overcome during their lifetime? (3 marks)

2. Method of Change: Explain the specific actions or methods this person used to campaign for change. Were their methods peaceful, legal, or something else? (3 marks)

3. Overcoming Obstacles: Identify a major challenge this person faced. Justify why this challenge made their eventual success even more remarkable. (4 marks)

4. Historical Impact: Compare and contrast the society this person lived in with the society we live in today. How has their work influenced modern legislation? (4 marks)

5. Critical Reflection: If this person were alive today, what modern issue might they choose to campaign for? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

6. Legacy Evaluation: What might happen if this individual had never taken a stand? Predict the long-term consequences for equality. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing this historical figure. Write a dialogue script where you ask them about the price of their courage. How did they find the strength to continue when faced with opposition? Reflect on how their character traits—such as resilience or empathy—contributed to their success.