

Black History Month: Journeys of Courage and Contribution

Learning objective: To evaluate the impact of historical figures, understand the significance of Black History Month, and reflect on the importance of equality and representation.

Read each question carefully. Provide thoughtful, evidence-based answers. Use the word bank to assist your vocabulary choices. Ensure your writing is clear and respectful.

Black History Month is an annual observance that provides an opportunity to honour the often-overlooked contributions of Black individuals throughout history. It is a time to reflect on the struggles against injustice and to celebrate the achievements of those who have pioneered change in science, the arts, politics, and civil rights. By learning about these diverse stories, we can build a more inclusive society where everyone feels valued and understood.

Word bank: Equality · Representation · Contribution · Perseverance · Legacy · Injustice · Advocacy · Diversity

1. Define the term 'legacy' in the context of Black History Month. Why is it important to learn about the legacies of individuals from the past? (2 marks)

2. Explain why Black History Month is celebrated annually rather than just once in history. What is the benefit of keeping these stories in our curriculum today? (3 marks)

3. Pip the bookworm caterpillar says, 'History is a collection of many voices.' Justify this statement by explaining how learning about a variety of perspectives changes our understanding of the world. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the impact of an activist fighting for civil rights with the impact of a Black scientist or inventor. How do their different contributions shape modern society? (4 marks)

5. What might happen to our understanding of society if we only learned about one type of history or one group of people? Support your answer with reasons. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: 'The power of representation.' Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why it is essential for children today to see people who look like them reflected in literature, history, and positions of leadership. How does this influence self-esteem and future aspirations? (9 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp design that represents the theme of 'Building a Brighter Future Together'. Include symbols that reflect progress, unity, and equality.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are curating a new museum exhibition focused on unsung heroes. Choose one person you have studied during this topic. Write a 200-word 'Curator's Note' explaining why this person's story is essential for Year 5 pupils to understand. Justify why their specific contribution changed the course of history.