

Black History Month: Celebrating Trailblazers and Changemakers

Learning objective: To recognise and celebrate the significant contributions of Black historical figures and understand the importance of equality and diversity in British society.

Read the information provided by Ellie the Elephant and use your knowledge to answer the questions below. Think carefully about the impact these individuals had on history.

Answer Key: 1. (c) Mary Seacole; 2. True; 3. 1948; 4. (a) Rosa Parks; 5. True; 6. Justice; 7. (b) Walter Tull; 8. False (she was a scientist/mathematician); 9. Courage; 10. (d) All of the above. Ellie's History Note: Celebrating Black History Month helps us understand that history is made by people from all walks of life working towards a fairer world.

Word bank: Legacy · Equality · Courage · Contribution · Justice · Inspiration · Activism

1. 1. Which British-Jamaican nurse set up the 'British Hotel' to care for soldiers during the Crimean War? (a) Florence Nightingale (b) Harriet Tubman (c) Mary Seacole* (d) Ada Lovelace (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Black History Month was first celebrated in the UK in 1987. (1 mark)

3. 3. The HMT Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in which year, bringing people from the Caribbean to help rebuild Britain? (1 mark)

4. 4. Who became a symbol of the civil rights movement after refusing to give up her bus seat in Montgomery? (a) Rosa Parks* (b) Maya Angelou (c) Shirley Chisholm (d) Sojourner Truth (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Olaudah Equiano was an author and abolitionist who campaigned against the slave trade in Britain. (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the one-word term for fair treatment and the quality of being morally right? (1 mark)

7. 7. Who was one of the first Black professional footballers in Britain and served as an officer in the First World War? (a) Viv Anderson (b) Walter Tull* (c) Arthur Wharton (d) Laurie Cunningham (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Katherine Johnson was a famous Black historical figure known primarily for her work as a professional chef. (1 mark)

9. 9. Fill in the blank: It takes great _____ to stand up against unfair treatment when others are afraid to do so. (1 mark)

10. 10. Why is it important to learn about Black history all year round, not just in October? (a) To gain a fuller picture of the past (b) To celebrate diversity (c) To learn from historical mistakes (d) All of the above* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a portrait of a person you find inspiring and surround them with symbols that represent their achievements or values, such as books for knowledge or scales for justice.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why it is important that history books include stories from diverse perspectives. 2. Compare and contrast the methods used by historical activists to achieve change. 3. Justify your answer: Does learning about the past help us build a better future? 4. What might happen if society chose to ignore historical figures who fought for equality? 5. Research a local historical figure from your own town or city who contributed to the community. 6. Write a short poem in the style of Leo the Lion about the importance of unity.