Legacy and Impact: A Black History Month Research Profile

Learning objective: To research, analyse, and synthesise the contributions of significant Black individuals, evaluating their historical impact and legacy in Britain and beyond.

Choose a significant historical figure or a contemporary trailblazer whose achievements have shaped society. Use reliable secondary sources to conduct your research. Ensure your writing is formal, objective, and demonstrates a deep understanding of their influence on history. Use the word bank to help elevate your vocabulary.

Word bank: Pioneer · Advocacy · Resilience · Influence · Legacy · Systemic · Contribution · Trailblazer · Injustice · Empowerment

1. Biography and Context: Who is the individual you have chosen, and what specific era or movement were they involved in? Explain the social or historical climate of their time. (3 marks)

2. Key Achievements: Identify the primary actions or works of this person. Justify why these achievements are considered significant in the context of Black history. (4 marks)

3. Overcoming Adversity: Describe the challenges or barriers this individual faced. Compare and contrast their experiences with the freedoms or opportunities available today. (3 marks)

4. The Ripple Effect: Explain why this person's influence is still felt in the present day. What might happen if this individual had not taken their courageous actions? (3 marks)

5. Critical Reflection: How does learning about this person's life change your perspective on historical progress? Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (3 marks)

6. Legacy Summary: If you were tasked with creating a public memorial for this person, what message would you engrave on it to inspire future generations? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Construct a persuasive speech or a formal letter to a local council member, advocating for why this individual should be commemorated in your local community (e.g., through a plaque or statue). You must justify your choice by linking their specific contributions to modern values of equality and justice.