History Assessment: Celebrating Significant Figures

Learning objective: To evaluate understanding of historical significance, identifying contributions made by Black figures to British and global society.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Remember to use full sentences and explain your reasoning clearly.

History is not just about dates; it is the story of people who changed the world. Throughout time, individuals from diverse backgrounds have overcome challenges to make lasting contributions to science, literature, medicine, and human rights. By studying their lives, we learn how their actions continue to shape our world today.

Word bank: significant · contribution · legacy · influence · social justice · pioneer · history · achievement

1. Define what makes a person 'historically significant'. Give one example of a quality a pioneer might possess. (2 marks)

2. Ellie the elephant has been reading about Mary Seacole. Describe one reason why she is considered a significant figure in nursing history. (3 marks)

3. Explain why it is important for historians to study the lives of people from different backgrounds, rather than focusing on only one group of people. (4 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the challenges faced by pioneers in the past with the opportunities available to people today. What has changed? (4 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why do we choose to celebrate the achievements of Black historical figures specifically during Black History Month, rather than at other times of the year? (3 marks)

6. Imagine you are writing a biography about a modern-day hero who is working to make the world a better place. Who would you choose, and what specific action makes them a role model? (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Select one historical figure you have studied. Write a short report explaining their main achievement, the impact they had on society at the time, and why their legacy is still relevant to us today. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative plaque or a statue design that celebrates a historical figure of your choice. Include symbols that represent their greatest achievement.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Deep Thinking Task: If you could travel back in time to meet one historical pioneer, what three questions would you ask them about their life's work and why? Justify your choice of questions.