

Black History Month: An Investigation of Influence

Learning objective: To research and analyse the significant contributions of a historical figure, evaluating their impact on society and their legacy in the modern world.

Choose a historical figure who has made a significant contribution to history. Use library books or reliable educational websites to investigate their life. Fill in the sections below, using your best analytical writing to justify why this person's achievements remain important today. Remember to use formal, academic language suitable for a Year 6 historian.

Word bank: contribution · legacy · adversity · pioneer · advocacy · societal change · influence · perseverance · milestone · systemic

1. Identify the historical figure you have chosen and provide a concise summary of their primary achievement. Why was this achievement considered pioneering at the time? (3 marks)

2. Explain the context of the era in which they lived. What specific barriers or prejudices did they face, and how did they navigate these challenges? (4 marks)

3. Justify your answer: In what ways did this individual's actions influence the trajectory of history or benefit future generations? (4 marks)

4. Compare and contrast: How might our world look different today if this individual had not achieved their goals? Provide evidence for your reasoning. (4 marks)

5. Reflect on the legacy of this person. What is one specific lesson we can learn from their life that is still relevant to our society in the 21st century? (3 marks)

6. What might happen if we failed to recognise the contributions of diverse historical figures in our national curriculum? Explain your perspective. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Task: Imagine you are interviewing this historical figure for a newspaper. Write a dialogue between yourself and the individual, focusing on a moment of great difficulty they overcame. Ensure your questions show an understanding of their historical context, and their responses reflect their personal values and character.