

Black History Month: Pioneers and Pathfinders

Learning objective: To identify and understand the achievements of significant Black individuals in British history and their impact on society.

Ellie the Elephant is creating a special museum display for Black History Month, but her notes have become muddled! Use the names in the word bank to fill in the blanks and match each pioneer to their incredible achievement. Then, answer the questions to help Ellie complete her project.

Word bank: Mary Seacole · John Blanke · Olaudah Equiano · Learie Constantine · Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock · Tessa Sanderson

1. 1. I was a royal trumpeter who lived during the Tudor period. I played my music in the courts of King Henry VII and King Henry VIII. Who am I? (1 mark)

2. 2. I was a brave nurse who travelled from Jamaica to help soldiers during the Crimean War. I set up the 'British Hotel' to provide food and medicine. Who am I? (1 mark)

3. 3. In the 1700s, I wrote a famous book about my life and worked as an abolitionist to help end the slave trade in Britain. Who am I? (1 mark)

4. 4. I am a modern-day space scientist and TV presenter. I love to teach children about the stars and the moon. Who am I? (1 mark)

5. 5. I was a world-class cricketer and a campaigner for equal rights. I became the first Black person to sit in the House of Lords as a peer. Who am I? (1 mark)

6. 6. Why is it important for Ellie to include people from many different centuries (like the Tudors, the Victorians, and today) in her Black history display? (2 marks)

7. 7. Pip the caterpillar wants to know: How does learning about these pioneers help us understand British history better? (2 marks)

Draw: Design a commemorative £2 coin to celebrate one of the pioneers from the word bank. Draw their portrait in the centre and include symbols that represent their work (for example, a trumpet, a telescope, or a cricket bat).



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter interviewing one of these pioneers. Write down three brilliant questions you would ask them to find out more about their life and challenges.