

Celebrating Pioneers: Black History Month

Learning objective: To recognise the significant contributions of Black historical figures to British society and understand the purpose of Black History Month.

Use your historical knowledge and the information discussed in class to answer the following questions. Provide full, thoughtful sentences where required.

Black History Month is an annual commemoration observed in the United Kingdom every October. It provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements, culture, and influence of Black people throughout history. From the Windrush generation who arrived in the UK post-1948 to help rebuild the country, to scientists, writers, and civil rights activists, these figures have shaped the modern British identity. It is a time to reflect on both the progress made and the work still required to ensure equality for everyone.

Word bank: contribution · pioneer · legacy · injustice · representation · activism · society · achievement

1. Explain why Black History Month is celebrated in the UK every October. What is its main purpose? (2 marks)

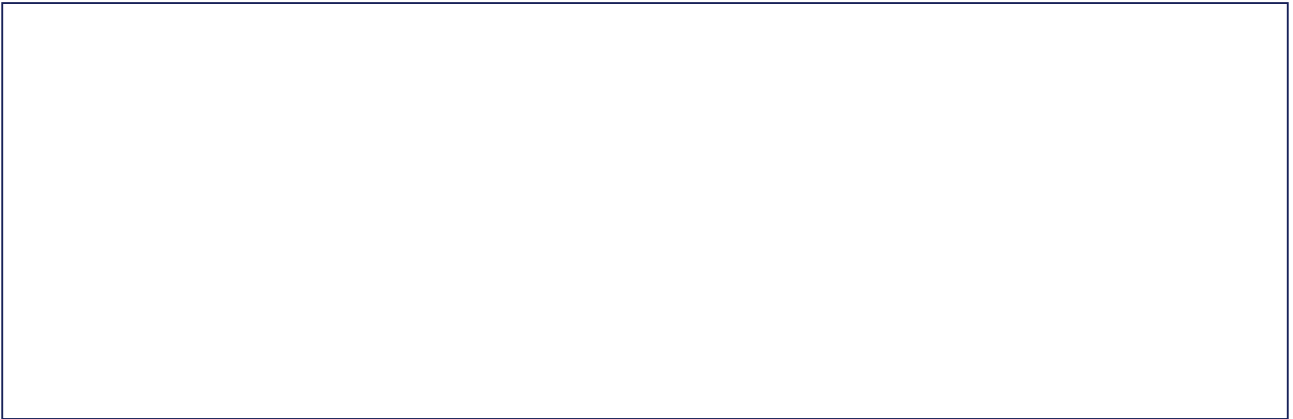
2. Who were the Windrush generation, and why were they important to British history after 1948? (2 marks)

3. Ellie the elephant has a great memory for history. She says, 'History is not just about the past, but how it shapes our future.' How does learning about Black history change our understanding of modern society? (3 marks)

4. Define the word 'pioneer' in the context of history. Why might we describe someone like Mary Seacole as a pioneer? (2 marks)

5. Max the monkey wants to solve a puzzle: If we only learn about a small group of people in history, what part of the 'big picture' are we missing? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp design honouring a Black historical figure you have studied. Include symbols that represent their specific achievements or career.



Extension challenge: Research a Black British historical figure that we have not discussed in class. Write a short 'tribute poem' in the style of Leo the Lion, highlighting their bravery or their contribution to British life.