

The Fight for the Vote: The Suffragettes

Learning objective: To understand the history of the Suffragette movement in the early 20th century and evaluate the impact of their campaign for women's suffrage.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of UK history to provide detailed answers. Remember to explain the 'why' behind the actions taken by the campaigners.

Ellie the elephant has been looking through the archives of history! She has discovered that for a long time in the United Kingdom, women were not allowed to vote in parliamentary elections. While the Suffragists campaigned peacefully, the Suffragettes—led by figures such as Emmeline Pankhurst—felt that stronger action was needed to make the government listen to their demands for equality. They adopted the motto 'Deeds, not words'.

Word bank: Suffragette · Suffragist · Parliament · Representation · Campaign · Democracy · Emmeline Pankhurst · Equality · Votes for Women

1. What was the main difference between the methods used by the Suffragists and the methods used by the Suffragettes? (2 marks)

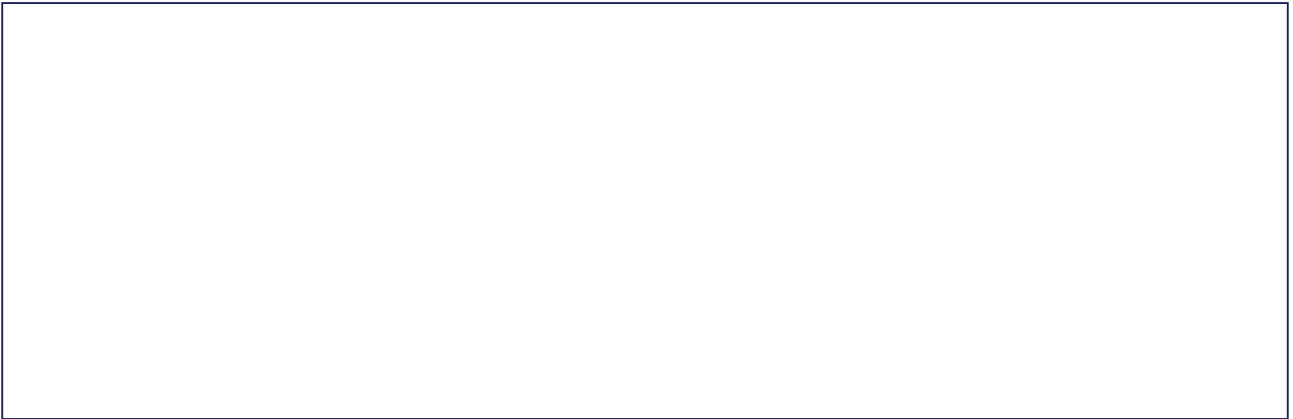
2. Explain why the Suffragettes chose the motto 'Deeds, not words'. What were they trying to tell the government? (2 marks)

3. Why was the right to vote considered so important for women in the early 20th century? Consider how laws affect people's daily lives. (3 marks)

4. If a modern-day campaigner wanted to change a law today, what three peaceful methods could they use that were not always available to the Suffragettes? (3 marks)

5. In 1918, some women were given the vote, but not all. Suggest one reason why the government might have only granted partial suffrage at first. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a poster that a Suffragette might have carried during a demonstration. Include a slogan and symbols that represent the movement for equality.



Extension challenge: Research a woman from the 20th century who made a significant impact on British society after women gained the right to vote. Write a short paragraph explaining how her achievements were made possible by the pioneers of the Suffragette movement.