Grade 5 History Assessment: Significant Figures in Black History

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the achievements, contributions, and challenges faced by significant figures in Black history, and their impact on society.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Ensure your spelling and grammar are accurate. You have 45 minutes to complete this paper.

History is shaped by the actions of individuals who strive for change. In the 20th century, many people campaigned against systemic inequality and worked to ensure that future generations could live in a more inclusive society. From the arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush in 1948 to the global movements for equal rights, these historical moments have fundamentally changed the social and cultural landscape of the United Kingdom and the wider world.

Word bank: Windrush · Civil Rights · Segregation · Injustice · Contribution · Activism · Legacy · Equality

1. Identify the year that the HMT Empire Windrush arrived in Britain and explain one reason why this event is significant to British history. (2 marks)

2. Define the term 'segregation' and explain how it affected the daily lives of people in the United States during the mid-20th century. (3 marks)

3. Name one significant Black historical figure (from Britain or abroad). Describe two major achievements or actions they took that challenged injustice. (4 marks)

4. Ellie the Elephant is learning about history. She asks: 'Why is it important for historians to study the contributions of Black individuals who were previously left out of history books?' Provide two reasons for your answer. (4 marks)

5. Max the Monkey is looking at a timeline. He asks: 'How did the Civil Rights movement influence laws regarding equality in the 1960s?' Explain the link between activism and legislative change. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: 'The legacy of historical figures continues to shape our society today.' Discuss this statement. You should refer to a specific movement or individual, explain the challenges they faced, and evaluate how their work impacts the way we live in the UK today. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp design that celebrates the contribution of a significant Black historical figure to British society.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension: Research a local monument or street name in your area that links to Black history and write a paragraph explaining who it honours.