# Pioneers of Progress: Black History Month Flashcards

*Learning objective: To understand the significant contributions of Black historical figures to British and global society and reflect on the importance of Black History Month.*

Read each flashcard carefully. The front of the card presents a key figure or concept, while the answer provides a summary of their legacy. Use these to test your knowledge of historical achievements.

**Mary Seacole**

A Jamaican-Scottish nurse who set up the 'British Hotel' behind the lines during the Crimean War to provide food, comfort, and medical care for wounded soldiers.

**Olaudah Equiano**

A former enslaved person who wrote an influential autobiography detailing the horrors of the Middle Passage and became a leading campaigner for the abolition of the slave trade.

**What is the purpose of Black History Month in the UK?**

It is an annual event held in October to celebrate and recognize the contributions, achievements, and history of Black people in Britain and across the globe.

**Walter Tull**

One of the first Black professional footballers in Britain and a brave officer in the British Army during the First World War, who overcame racial barriers to lead his men into battle.

**Rosa Parks**

An American civil rights activist whose act of defiance in refusing to give up her bus seat sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott, a pivotal moment in the fight for racial equality.

**The Windrush Generation**

Refers to the people who arrived in the UK from Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1971, invited by the British government to help rebuild the country after the Second World War.

**Benjamin Zephaniah**

A renowned British poet and writer known for his 'dub poetry' and his passionate advocacy for social justice, human rights, and the celebration of cultural diversity.

**Why is it important to study 'hidden' histories?**

To gain a more balanced and accurate understanding of the past by uncovering the stories of individuals whose contributions were previously overlooked or excluded from mainstream records.

**What does the term 'Abolitionist' mean?**

A person who supported the end of slavery and campaigned actively to change laws and public opinion to stop the slave trade.

**How did the 1948 Nationality Act influence British society?**

It granted citizens of British colonies the right to live and work in the UK, which led to a significant increase in the diversity of the British population and workforce.