## Black History Month Reading Comprehension Assessment

#### Introduction

Black History Month is an annual celebration of the achievements and contributions of African Americans throughout history. This assessment is designed to measure students' understanding of key figures, events, and primary sources from the Black History era. The assessment is divided into three sections: Multiple Choice Questions, Short Answer Questions, and an Essay Question. Each section is designed to assess students' knowledge, critical thinking, and writing skills.

## **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this assessment, students will be able to:

- Identify key figures in Black History, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Harriet Tubman
- Understand the significance of major events in Black History, including the Civil Rights Movement and the Underground Railroad
- Analyze primary sources from the Black History era, such as speeches, letters, and photographs
- Recognize the impact of Black History on contemporary society, including its influence on social justice and equality

#### **Example of a Key Figure in Black History**

Martin Luther King Jr. was a prominent leader in the Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his "I Have a Dream" speech, which he delivered during the March on Washington in 1963. King's message of nonviolent resistance and equality continues to inspire people today.

# **Section 1: Multiple Choice Questions**

Choose the correct answer for each question.

#### Question 1 [1 point]

Who was the leader of the Civil Rights Movement?

- A) Martin Luther King Jr.
- B) Rosa Parks
- C) Harriet Tubman
- D) Frederick Douglass

#### Question 2 [1 point]

What was the main purpose of the Underground Railroad?

- A) To escape from slavery
- B) To fight in the Civil War
- C) To participate in the Civil Rights Movement
- D) To explore the American West

# **Section 2: Short Answer Questions**

Answer each question in complete sentences. Question 3 [2 points] Describe the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation. Question 4 [2 points] What message do you think the artist intended to convey through the "I Am a Man" poster?

# **Section 3: Essay Question** Choose a key figure from Black History and describe their contribution to the Civil Rights Movement. Be sure to include specific examples and primary sources to support your argument.

# **Marking Guide**

The marking guide for this assessment is as follows:

- Multiple Choice Questions: 1 point for each correct answer
- Short Answer Questions: 2 points for content knowledge, 1 point for critical thinking, 1 point for writing quality
- Essay Question: 5 points for content knowledge, 3 points for critical thinking, 2 points for writing quality

# **Differentiation Options**

The following differentiation options are available for this assessment:

- For struggling readers: Provide a graphic organizer to help students complete the short answer questions.
- For English language learners: Provide a word bank with key vocabulary terms.
- For students with disabilities: Provide extra time to complete the assessment or offer the use of assistive technology.

# **Bloom's Taxonomy Alignment**

This assessment aligns with Bloom's Taxonomy, which categorizes learning objectives into six levels of complexity:

• Remembering: Multiple choice questions

• Understanding: Short answer questions (Section 2)

Applying: Short answer questions (Section 2)

Analyzing: Essay questionEvaluating: Essay questionCreating: Essay question

# **Multiple Intelligence Approaches**

This assessment incorporates multiple intelligence approaches to engage students with different learning styles:

- Linguistic intelligence: Multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and essay question
- Logical-mathematical intelligence: Multiple choice questions
- Spatial intelligence: Graphic organizer (differentiation option)
- Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence: None
- Musical intelligence: None
- Interpersonal intelligence: Class discussion (optional)
- Intrapersonal intelligence: Reflective questions (optional)

# **Clear Success Criteria**

This assessment provides clear success criteria for students, including:

- Learning objectivesQuestion types and formatsMarking guideDifferentiation options

# **Evidence Collection Methods**

This assessment collects evidence of student learning through:

- Multiple choice questions
- Short answer questions
- Essay question

# **Feedback Opportunities**

This assessment provides feedback opportunities for students, including:

- Correct answers and explanations for multiple choice questions
- Feedback on short answer questions and essay question
- Class discussion and reflection (optional)

## **Additional Resources**

The following additional resources are available to support student learning:

- Timeline of major events in Black History
- Biographies of key figures in Black HistoryPrimary sources from the Black History era
- Graphic organizer for short answer questions
- Word bank with key vocabulary terms

## **Extension Activities**

The following extension activities are available to support student learning:

- Create a multimedia presentation about a key figure in Black History
- Write a poem or song about the Civil Rights Movement
- Design a poster or infographic about the Underground Railroad
- Conduct a debate about the significance of Black History in contemporary society

# **Assessment Rubric**

The assessment rubric for this assessment is as follows:

- Content knowledge (40 points)Critical thinking (30 points)Writing quality (30 points)

## **Note to Teachers**

Please review the learning objectives and assessment structure with students before administering the assessment. Provide clear instructions and examples for each question type. Allow students to use the differentiation options as needed. Collect and review student work to provide feedback and assess student learning.

## **Teaching Strategies**

Effective teaching strategies are crucial for student success in learning about Black History. Some strategies include:

- Using primary sources to engage students and promote critical thinking
- Incorporating multimedia resources, such as videos and podcasts, to enhance student understanding
- Encouraging class discussions and debates to foster critical thinking and empathy
- Providing opportunities for students to reflect on their own learning and set goals for improvement

#### **Example of a Teaching Strategy**

The "Think-Pair-Share" strategy is an effective way to promote critical thinking and class discussion. Students are given a prompt or question, and then paired with a partner to discuss and share their thoughts. Finally, the class comes together to share their findings and insights.

#### Assessment and Evaluation

Assessment and evaluation are critical components of the learning process. Teachers should use a variety of assessment strategies to measure student learning, including:

- Quizzes and tests to assess content knowledge
- Projects and presentations to assess critical thinking and creativity
- Class discussions and participation to assess engagement and understanding
- Reflective journals and self-assessments to assess student reflection and self-awareness

#### Case Study: Assessment and Evaluation

A teacher used a combination of quizzes, projects, and class discussions to assess student learning in a Black History unit. The teacher found that students who participated in class discussions and completed reflective journals showed a deeper understanding of the material and were more engaged in the learning process.

## Technology Integration

Technology can be a powerful tool for teaching and learning about Black History. Some ways to integrate technology include:

- Using online resources, such as primary sources and multimedia presentations, to enhance student learning
- Creating digital projects, such as videos and podcasts, to promote critical thinking and creativity
- Utilizing online discussion forums and social media to facilitate class discussions and promote engagement
- Developing online quizzes and assessments to measure student learning and understanding

#### **Example of Technology Integration**

A teacher used a digital timeline tool to have students create a interactive timeline of major events in Black History. Students were able to include images, videos, and primary sources to enhance their timeline and promote critical thinking and creativity.

## **Cultural Competence and Sensitivity**

Teaching about Black History requires cultural competence and sensitivity. Teachers should be aware of their own biases and privileges, and be mindful of the impact of their words and actions on students. Some strategies for promoting cultural competence and sensitivity include:

- Using inclusive language and avoiding stereotypes and biases
- Providing opportunities for students to share their own experiences and perspectives
- Encouraging empathy and understanding through role-playing and simulations
- Addressing and challenging racist and discriminatory language and behaviors

### Case Study: Cultural Competence and Sensitivity

A teacher recognized the importance of cultural competence and sensitivity when teaching about Black History. The teacher used inclusive language, provided opportunities for students to share their own experiences, and encouraged empathy and understanding through role-playing and simulations. As a result, students felt more comfortable and engaged in the learning process.

## Conclusion

Teaching about Black History is a complex and multifaceted task. Teachers must be aware of the historical and cultural context of the subject, and be mindful of their own biases and privileges. By using effective teaching strategies, assessing and evaluating student learning, integrating technology, and promoting cultural competence and sensitivity, teachers can create a rich and engaging learning experience for their students.

#### **Example of a Conclusion**

A teacher concluded a Black History unit by having students reflect on what they had learned and how they could apply it to their own lives. Students wrote reflective essays and created digital projects to demonstrate their understanding and appreciation of the subject.

## References

The following references were used in the development of this document:

- Primary sources from the Black History era
- Secondary sources, such as books and articles, about Black History
- · Online resources, such as websites and multimedia presentations, about Black History

#### Case Study: References

A teacher used a variety of references, including primary and secondary sources, to develop a comprehensive and accurate unit on Black History. The teacher found that using a range of references helped to promote critical thinking and understanding among students.

### **Glossary**

The following terms are defined for the purpose of this document:

- Black History: the study of the experiences and contributions of African Americans throughout history
- Civil Rights Movement: a social movement that aimed to end racial segregation and discrimination in the United States
- Primary sources: original materials from a particular time period, such as letters, speeches, and photographs

#### **Example of a Glossary**

A teacher created a glossary of key terms related to Black History to help students understand the subject. The glossary included definitions of terms such as "Jim Crow laws" and "segregation."

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