

# Trailblazers of History: Celebrating Diversity

*Learning objective: To identify key contributions made by influential Black figures in British history and use descriptive language to write a short biography.*

Read the passage about Mary Seacole. Then, answer the questions below to test your understanding of her incredible life. Finally, use your imagination to draw how you would remember her legacy.

Mary Seacole was a remarkable woman born in Jamaica in 1805. Her mother was a traditional healer who taught Mary how to use herbs and plants to treat illnesses. As she grew up, Mary developed a deep passion for nursing. When she heard about the Crimean War in the 1850s, she travelled all the way to the front lines to help the wounded soldiers. Despite facing many challenges, Mary showed great resilience. She set up the 'British Hotel', a place where soldiers could get food and medical care. Mary Seacole is remembered today for her kindness, her bravery, and her pioneering spirit in the field of medicine.

*Word bank: compassion · resilience · pioneering · nursing · legacy · determination*

**1. What did Mary Seacole learn from her mother, and how did this help her in the future? (2 marks)**

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**2. Why did Mary decide to travel to the Crimean War? (1 mark)**

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**3. Find and copy one word from the text that describes Mary's personality. (1 mark)**

**4. Max the monkey thinks Mary was a great problem-solver. Explain how the 'British Hotel' was a clever solution to a problem. (2 marks)**

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**5. Why is it important to celebrate people like Mary Seacole during Black History Month? (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a commemorative stamp that celebrates Mary Seacole. Include symbols that represent her kindness and her work as a nurse.



*Extension challenge: Research another historical figure who has made a difference in Britain. Write three sentences about them, focusing on the impact they had on their community.*