



Do We Still Need a Month for Women's History?

Read the passage and answer the questions. (CEFR B1–B2)

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



- 1 Women's History Month began as a complaint about textbooks. In the 1970s, teachers like Molly Murphy MacGregor noticed that standard history books said almost nothing about women. Historians such as Gerda Lerner argued that a history leaving out half of the population could never be complete. A special week, and later a whole month, was meant to fill that gap quickly.
- 2 Decades later, the observance raises a fair question. Some educators worry that a single month can turn women's history into a list of famous firsts that students forget by April. In their view, the real goal should be lessons that include women throughout the school year. The organizers themselves seem to agree in part, since they renamed their group in 2018 to support women's history all year long.
- 3 Supporters reply that the month still does valuable work. It gives teachers a reason to look for new materials, encourages museums and libraries to open their archives, and reaches adults who left school long ago. For them, the month is less a finish line than a reminder that the work begun in the 1970s is not yet complete.

Comprehension

1. What is the main point of the passage?

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| (A) Women's History Month should be moved to another month. | (B) Textbooks today include as many women as men. |
| (C) People disagree about whether a special month is still the best way to teach women's history. | (D) Gerda Lerner started Women's History Month by herself. |

2. According to the passage, what did teachers in the 1970s notice?

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| (A) History books said almost nothing about women. | (B) Students did not like history classes. |
| (C) Museums did not have enough money. | (D) Women's history was taught all year. |

3. What do some educators worry about?

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| (A) Museums will close their archives. | (B) Adults will not be interested in history. |
| (C) The organizers will change their name again. | (D) Students will remember only quick facts about famous firsts and soon forget them. |

4. Why does the writer mention that the group was renamed in 2018?

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| (A) To show that the group had become smaller | (B) To show that even the organizers partly share the goal of teaching women's history all year |
| (C) To explain why the theme changes every year | (D) To argue that the month should end |

5. In paragraph 1, what does fill that gap mean?

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| (A) Make a hole in the wall bigger | (B) Give students more free time |
| (C) Add the missing part about women to history lessons | (D) Close the schools for a week |

6. What does the writer mean by calling the month less a finish line than a reminder?

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| (A) The month is a race that students must win. | (B) The month shows that the work is already finished. |
| (C) The month should be shorter than before. | (D) The month does not mark the end of the work but reminds people that more needs to be done. |



Vocabulary, Paraphrase & Summary

Match the words with the definitions. Then rewrite and summarize.

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|---------------|--|
| 1. complaint | a. something that makes you remember or think about something |
| 2. standard | b. a statement that something is wrong or not good enough |
| 3. population | c. usual or normal, used by most people |
| 4. observance | d. all the people who live in a place |
| 5. educator | e. the act of celebrating or remembering a special day or event |
| 6. throughout | f. a person whose job is to teach or to plan teaching |
| 7. archive | g. during the whole of a period of time |
| 8. reminder | h. a collection of old papers, photos and records kept for study |

Paraphrase — say it in your own words

1. “Historians such as Gerda Lerner argued that a history leaving out half of the population could never be complete.”

Hint: Start with Gerda Lerner and other historians said, and use if instead of leaving out.

2. “Some educators worry that a single month can turn women's history into a list of famous firsts that students forget by April.”

Hint: Use are afraid that instead of worry that, and change turn into to become.

3. “For them, the month is less a finish line than a reminder that the work begun in the 1970s is not yet complete.”

Hint: Use not ... but ... instead of less ... than, and change not yet complete to still unfinished.

Summary

Summarize the passage in about 50 words.



Debate & Opinion Essay

Prepare for a debate. Then write your opinion (100–150 words).

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Motion: Schools no longer need a special month for women's history.

FOR 賛成

- If women's history is part of every lesson, students will learn it all year instead of only in March.
- A single month can turn women's history into a short list of famous firsts that students soon forget.
- Even the organizers renamed their group in 2018 to support women's history all year long.

Add your own reason:

AGAINST 反対

- A special month gives busy teachers a clear reason to find new materials and plan lessons.
- Museums and libraries open their archives in March, so more people can see real documents.
- The month also reaches adults who left school long ago and may never study history again.

Add your own reason:

Opinion	<i>I believe / I think that ...</i>
Reason 1	<i>First, ... For example, ...</i>
Reason 2	<i>Second, ... In fact, ...</i>
Counter	<i>Some people say ... However, ...</i>
Conclusion	<i>In conclusion, ...</i>