

# English knowledge Organiser Years 5 and 6

## Key Themes in the Book

**Perseverance** — Keeping going even when things are difficult or unfair.

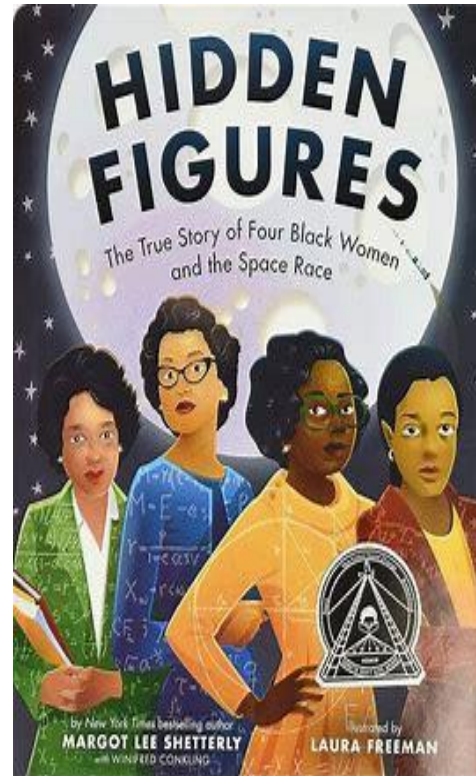
**Equality** — Everyone should have the same rights and opportunities, no matter their race or gender.

**Teamwork** — Working together to solve problems, especially during the Space Race.

**STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)** — The women used their mathematical skills to help NASA succeed.

**Courage** — Standing up for yourself and others, even when it's risky.

**Breaking Barriers** — Challenging rules and expectations to open doors for future generations.



## Key Vocab:

Space Race

racism

Sexism

determination

inspiration

segregation

discrimination

engineer

trajectory

Civil rights

trajectory

*Hidden Figures* tells the true story of four brilliant African-American women—**Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson and Christine Darden**—who worked as mathematicians for NASA during the Space Race. Even though they faced **unfair rules, racism** and **sexism**, they used their incredible maths and problem-solving skills to help send astronauts safely into space. It's a story about **determination, courage**, and **never giving up on your dreams**.

You will develop note taking skills to research about these inspirational women and plan and write a biography about Katherine Johnson. You will also plan and write a formal letter from one of the characters to NASA.

Term	Definition
<b>Note taking</b>	Writing down key information in short, clear points—not full sentences.
<b>Root word</b>	The basic part of a word that gives it meaning (e.g., <i>act</i> in <i>action</i> ).
<b>Prefix</b>	A group of letters added to the start of a word to change its meaning (e.g., <i>re-</i> in <i>redo</i> ).
<b>Suffix</b>	A group of letters added to the end of a word (e.g., <i>-ful</i> in <i>hopeful</i> ).
<b>Parenthesis</b>	Extra information added to a sentence using brackets, dashes or commas.
<b>Biography</b>	A text that tells the story of a real person's life.
<b>Conjunctions for cohesion</b>	Words that link ideas and help writing flow (e.g., <i>however, therefore, meanwhile</i> ).
<b>Relative clause</b>	A clause beginning with <i>who, which, that</i> to add detail to a noun.