

Find Your Future: Trailblazers

Academic staff from the University of Reading have made short videos about inspiring trailblazers who have made important contributions to many different areas of our lives today. Now it's over to you! Choose a selection of the videos to watch (see a full list below) and then complete the activity.

Trailblazer Videos

Subject	Name of Trailblazer(s)	YouTube Link
Biological Sciences	David Barker and Mark Hanson	https://youtu.be/_mks7JtF3Lg
Classics	Annie Ure	https://youtu.be/cQKiPTiAlls
English Literature	Isabella Whitney and Rachel Speght	https://youtu.be/jN-p92pMQi4
English Literature	Anne Waldman	https://youtu.be/s2E7YnCT_AI
English Literature	Henry Louis Gates	https://youtu.be/_A_J-P8gmUk
English Literature	Naomi Schor	https://youtu.be/un8RlxyiCP4
Food Science	Rosalind Franklin	https://youtu.be/OzLBpBs1GUE
Marketing	Mary Whiton Calkins	https://youtu.be/EtIraMTDKbl
Meteorology	Eunice Foote	https://youtu.be/BWfWUwuRUZw
Pharmacy	Gertrude Elion	https://youtu.be/D_Nm6469uaE
Pharmacy	Vivien Thomas	https://youtu.be/GK-d2W0ckdQ
Philosophy	The Philosophy of the Buddha	https://youtu.be/Y4nN72xHe1Q
Philosophy	Judith Butler *Please be aware this video discusses topics surrounding gender which not all students may wish to engage with*	https://youtu.be/Ecii5d-euMg

Activity

- After watching a selection of the videos (we suggest watching around 4 videos, depending on how much time you have), choose which one of our trailblazers is your favourite, and spend up to 10 minutes using the internet to do your own research on that person, to find out more details. Then answer the questions below:
 - Using the template provided as an example, write a fact file about your chosen trailblazer, showing what you have learned about their life and work.
 - Write a sentence explaining why you picked this person as your favourite.
- Pick an inspiring 'trailblazer' of your own (not one discussed in the videos). This could be someone historic, or who is still alive today. This could be a scientist, a politician, a writer, an activist or even one of your teachers who has helped you succeed at school. The person doesn't necessarily have to be famous or well-known!

You can work alone or in groups of two or three, and you can present your chosen trailblazer in the form of a poster, a presentation with props, or even as a video. Try to imagine the people you are presenting to have never heard of the person you have chosen and it's your job to tell them all about that trailblazer. Don't forget to tell us about that person's life and work, and why you find them so inspiring.