

Ellie's Historical Report: The Great Fire of London

Learning objective: To write a clear, chronological report about the causes, events, and aftermath of the Great Fire of London in 1666.

Use the prompts below to help Ellie organise your notes into a historical report. Remember to write in the past tense and use your best handwriting.

In the early hours of Sunday 2nd September 1666, a small fire began in a bakery on Pudding Lane, forever changing the city of London.

Word bank: meanwhile · consequently · in addition · finally · devastating · spread rapidly · catastrophic · aftermath · nevertheless · furthermore

1. The Start of the Fire: Describe where the fire began and why it was so difficult to stop. Start with: The fire started in Thomas Farriner's bakery because... (2 marks)

2. Why the Fire Spread: Explain why the city was so vulnerable to flames. Start with: At the time, London's houses were made of wood and pitch, which meant... (2 marks)

3. The Events of the Week: Describe how the people reacted and how they tried to fight the fire. Start with: As the blaze moved through the streets, citizens tried to... (2 marks)

4. The Aftermath: What happened to London after the fire was finally put out? Start with: Once the fire was extinguished, the people of London had to... (2 marks)

5. A Historical Conclusion: Why do we still remember this event today? Start with: The Great Fire is an important event in history because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter in 1666. Write a short 'Breaking News' headline and a two-sentence summary to alert the people of London about the danger.