

Nova's Sparkling Sensory Poetry Workshop

Learning objective: To use rich, descriptive vocabulary (adjectives, adverbs, and metaphors) to compose sensory poetry about Bonfire Night, focusing on the five senses.

Nova the owl is preparing to watch the night sky. She wants to capture the magic of Bonfire Night in a poem, but she needs help choosing the perfect words. Use the word bank to help you complete the descriptive phrases below. Then, use your answers to write a stanza of poetry that describes the sights, sounds, and sensations of a fireworks display.

Word bank: cacophony · effervescent · sizzling · vibrant · luminous · crackling · shimmering · ethereal

1. Nova sees a firework that looks like a glowing star. Which adjective from the word bank best describes this light? Explain why you chose it. (2 marks)

2. When the fireworks explode, they create a loud noise. If you were writing a poem, why might you choose the word 'cacophony' instead of just saying 'it was loud'? (2 marks)

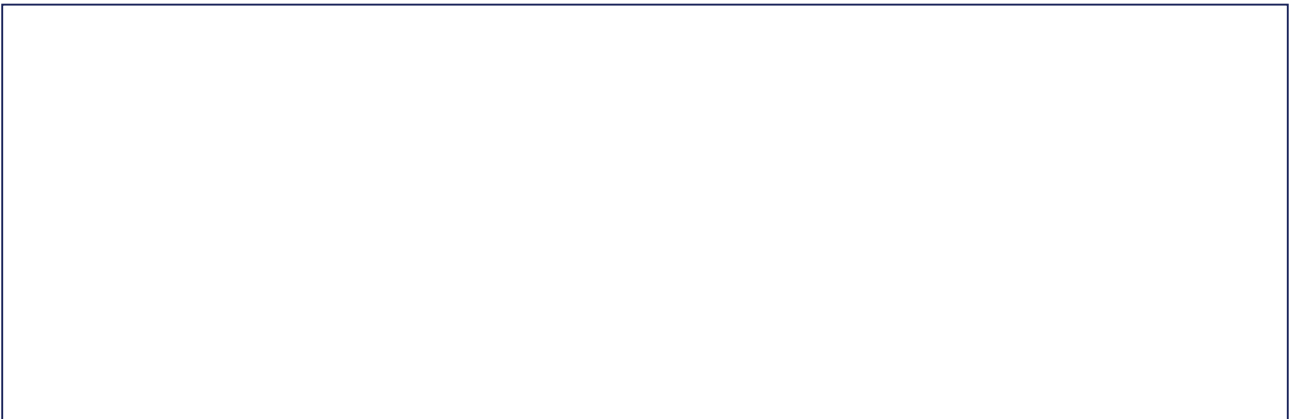
3. Compare and contrast the sound of a 'crackling' sparkler with the sound of a 'sizzling' Catherine wheel. How do these words change the reader's experience? (2 marks)

4. Justify your choice: If you had to describe the smoke drifting across the night sky, would you describe it as 'ethereal' or 'vibrant'? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the mood of your poem if you replaced all the positive, sparkling adjectives with words that describe coldness or silence? How would the reader's perception of Bonfire Night change? (2 marks)

6. Draft your own four-line poem below using at least two words from the word bank. Ensure you use at least one metaphor (e.g., 'The sky is a canvas of fire'). (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a detailed scene of a night sky filled with fireworks, including at least three elements you described in your poem. Label your drawing using three adjectives from the word bank to show where those sensations are happening.



Extension challenge: Challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining the history of Bonfire Night in your own words. Why do you think people still celebrate it hundreds of years later? Consider the importance of tradition and community.