Bonfire Night Sparkle Quiz

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension and historical vocabulary skills related to the Gunpowder Plot and Bonfire Night traditions.

Read the historical context passage carefully before answering the ten questions. Ensure your spelling is accurate and use your best handwriting.

In 1605, a group of men plotted against King James I in an event known as the Gunpowder Plot. Their plan was to blow up the Houses of Parliament. However, the plot was discovered, and Guy Fawkes was found guarding the explosives. Ever since that night, the 5th of November has been marked in Britain with bonfires and fireworks. Traditionally, some people build a 'guy'—an effigy made of old clothes—to place on top of the bonfire. It is a time for communities to gather, watch displays, and enjoy treats like toffee apples while remembering this strange chapter in British history.

Word bank: Parliament · treason · conspiracy · effigy · commemoration · gunpowder · tradition

1. 1. In what year did the Gunpowder Plot take place? A) 1506 B) 1605* C) 1705 D) 1650 (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The plotters intended to blow up the King's palace instead of Parliament. (1 mark)

3. 3. Who was caught guarding the explosives? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the name given to the figure made of old clothes that is sometimes placed on a bonfire? A) A dummy B) An effigy* C) A statue D) A model (1 mark)

5. 5. Which monarch was the target of the plot? A) King Charles I B) Queen Elizabeth I C) King James I* D) King Henry VIII (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Bonfire Night is celebrated on the 5th of November every year. (1 mark)

7. 7. What ingredient, used for fireworks and explosions, gives the event its name? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

8. 8. Which of these is a popular treat mentioned in the text? A) Chocolate cake B) Toffee apples* C) Hot cross buns D) Strawberry jam (1 mark)

9. 9. Explain why the 5th of November is still commemorated today. (Use 2-3 sentences) (1 mark)

10. 10. What does the word 'conspiracy' mean in the context of the passage? A) A secret plan by a group* B) A public celebration C) A type of firework D) A royal command (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a vibrant scene of a Bonfire Night celebration. Include Nova the owl looking up at the sky, watching colourful fireworks burst over a warm, glowing bonfire.

Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Justify why we continue to celebrate an event from over 400 years ago. 2. Compare and contrast how people might have celebrated in the 1600s versus how we celebrate today. 3. What might happen if the plot had been successful? 4. Write a short, descriptive poem about the sound and light of fireworks. 5. Explain why historical accounts might differ depending on who is telling the story. 6. Research the 'Guy' tradition and write a paragraph on whether you think this tradition should continue.