

The Spark of History: A Bonfire Night Quiz

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins, traditions, and significance of Bonfire Night in the UK.

Join Leo the Lion as he explores the history of 5th November. Read each question carefully and select or write the best answer. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.1605, 4.B, 5.False, 6.Parliament, 7.A, 8.True, 9.Gunpowder Plot, 10.D. Historical Context: Bonfire Night commemorates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament. It serves as a reminder of the importance of peace and historical memory.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · 1605 · Treason · Fireworks · Effigy · Gunpowder Plot · King James I

1. Which historical event is remembered on 5th November? A) The Great Fire of London B) The Battle of Hastings C) The Gunpowder Plot* D) The invention of the lightbulb (1 mark)

2. True or False: The goal of the plotters was to protect the King. (1 mark)

3. In what year did the Gunpowder Plot take place? (1 mark)

4. What is the name of the dummy figure often placed on top of a bonfire? A) A mascot B) An effigy* C) A statue D) A scarecrow (1 mark)

5. True or False: Bonfire Night is celebrated exclusively in the United Kingdom. (1 mark)

6. What specific building were the plotters planning to destroy? (1 mark)

7. Why were fireworks originally introduced to the celebration? A) To symbolise the explosives that were never used* B) To keep people warm C) To scare away animals D) To signal the end of the day (1 mark)

8. True or False: Guy Fawkes was the only person involved in the Gunpowder Plot. (1 mark)

9. If a box of sparklers costs £2.50 and you buy two boxes, what is the total cost? (1 mark)

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

Draw: Draw a scene of a winter night sky filled with colourful fireworks, including a bonfire in the foreground and Leo the Lion watching safely from a distance.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why historical events like the Gunpowder Plot continue to be remembered over 400 years later. 2. Compare and contrast how we celebrate Bonfire Night today versus how it might have been celebrated in the 17th century. 3. Justify your answer: Is it more important to focus on the 'fun' of fireworks or the 'history' behind the date? 4. What might happen if the plot had actually succeeded? 5. Design a poster for a modern, safe Bonfire Night celebration. 6. Research and write a short poem from the perspective of a night owl watching the city lights on 5th November.