

Bonfire Night: A Night of Sparks and Stories

Learning objective: To assess comprehension of historical context, descriptive vocabulary, and creative writing skills related to Bonfire Night.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling and punctuation.

On the fifth of November, the night sky comes alive with colour. Families gather around crackling bonfires to stay warm, eating toffee apples and watching the sky. This tradition began over 400 years ago in 1605, when a man named Guy Fawkes tried to change history by sneaking into the Houses of Parliament. Since that day, people have lit bonfires and set off fireworks to remember the events of that night. Today, we enjoy the bright, whizzing rockets and the golden glow of sparklers, making the chilly autumn evening feel magical.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · tradition · celebration · spectacular · billowing · sparklers · fireworks · whizzing

1. According to the text, on what date do we celebrate Bonfire Night? (1 mark)

2. Why did people start lighting bonfires to celebrate this night? Use information from the text. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey wants to know two things people eat or use to celebrate today. Can you name them? (2 marks)

4. Find and copy one adjective from the text that describes the fireworks. (1 mark)

5. How do you think the people in 1605 felt when they discovered the plan to enter the Houses of Parliament? Explain your answer using a full sentence. (3 marks)

6. Pip the bookworm caterpillar loves descriptive writing. Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing what it is like to stand in a garden watching a firework display. Use at least two words from the word bank. (5 marks)

7. If a box of sparklers costs £4.50 and a bag of toffee apples costs £3.25, how much would you spend in total? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a night sky filled with fireworks and a warm, glowing bonfire below. Label your drawing with two adjectives.



Extension challenge: Research one other festival that involves lights or fire. Write three sentences explaining how it is similar or different to Bonfire Night. Total: /25