

Bonfire Night Bonanza: A Year 6 English Quiz

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension and vocabulary skills through a historical and cultural context.

Read the information provided by Pip the bookworm and answer the following 10 questions to test your knowledge of Bonfire Night history and descriptive language.

Bonfire Night, held on 5 November, is a tradition in the United Kingdom that commemorates the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605. A group of conspirators, including Guy Fawkes, planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament to change the government. The plot was discovered before it could happen. Today, we celebrate with colourful fireworks, glowing bonfires, and occasionally by burning an effigy—a straw dummy—on top of the fire. The night is filled with the scent of woodsmoke and the whizzing of Catherine wheels. It is a time for communities to gather safely under the night sky.

Word bank: Gunpowder · Parliament · Treason · Effigy · Commemoration · Catherine wheel · Spectacular · Atmosphere

1. 1. According to the text, which year did the Gunpowder Plot occur? A) 1506 B) 1605* C) 1905 D) 1650 (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Guy Fawkes was the only person involved in the plot. (1 mark)

3. 3. What is the definition of an 'effigy' as used in the text? A) A type of firework B) A government building C) A straw dummy* D) A loud noise (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the main purpose of Bonfire Night? (1 word) (1 mark)

5. 5. Which word from the text describes the visual appearance of the fireworks? A) Dull B) Colourful* C) Quiet D) Ancient (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: The Gunpowder Plot successfully destroyed the Houses of Parliament. (1 mark)

7. 7. What sensory detail does Pip mention regarding the smell of the night? (1 word) (1 mark)

8. 8. Which of these is a type of firework mentioned in the passage? A) Roman Candle B) Sparkler C) Catherine wheel* D) Rocket (1 mark)

9. 9. Identify the noun phrase in this sentence: 'The night is filled with the scent of woodsmoke.' (1 mark)

10. 10. If a box of sparklers costs £4.50 and you buy two boxes, what is the total cost? (£) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene of a night sky filled with bright fireworks, including a Catherine wheel, while Nova the owl watches safely from a tree branch.



Extension challenge: Write a short, descriptive paragraph (50-80 words) using at least three words from the word bank to describe the atmosphere at a community bonfire event.