

The Great Fire of London: A Blazing History Quiz

Learning objective: To recall and analyse key facts regarding the causes, events, and consequences of the Great Fire of London (1666).

Join Ellie the Elephant on a journey back to 1666! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of Stuart history to answer. For the Greater Depth questions, provide detailed explanations to justify your thinking.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False (it was a bakery), 4.Samuel Pepys, 5.B, 6.True, 7.B, 8.1666, 9.False (they were made of wood and pitch), 10.A. Greater Depth Reasoning: Pupils should explain that the narrow streets, wooden houses, and dry summer conditions created a 'perfect storm' for the fire to spread rapidly. Reconstruction allowed for wider streets and brick buildings, significantly reducing future fire risks.

Word bank: Pudding Lane · Samuel Pepys · St Paul's Cathedral · timber · thatch · 1666 · Charles II · firebreaks · monument · reconstruction

1. 1. In which year did the Great Fire of London begin? A) 1066 B) 1555 C) 1666* D) 1766 (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: The houses in London were mostly made of fire-proof stone in 1666. (1 mark)

4. 4. Who kept a famous diary that provides historians with a first-hand account of the fire? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which method was finally used to stop the fire from spreading? A) Using buckets of water B) Creating firebreaks by blowing up houses* C) Waiting for the rain D) Asking the King to help (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: St Paul's Cathedral was completely destroyed during the fire. (1 mark)

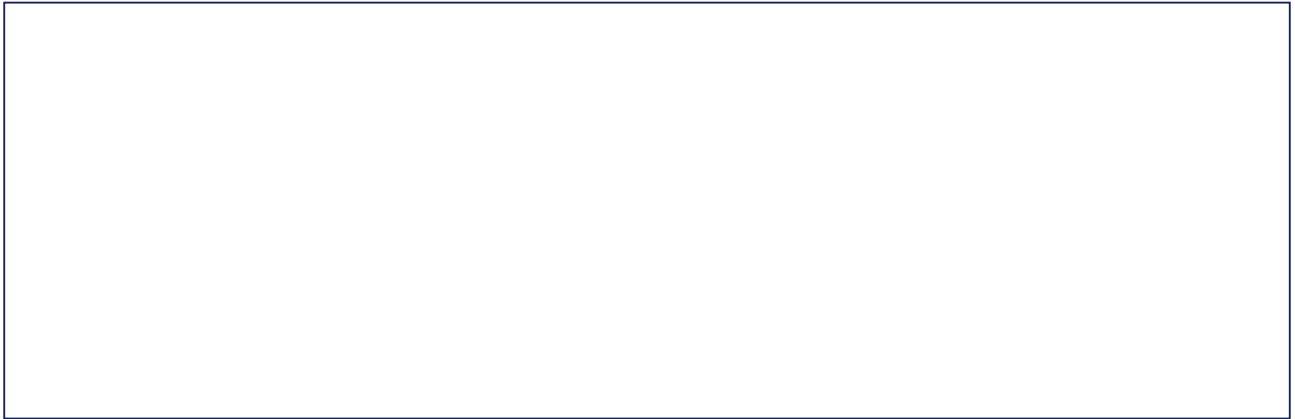
7. 7. What was the primary reason the fire spread so quickly? A) High winds and dry weather* B) A volcanic eruption C) The river flooded D) A plague of insects (1 mark)

8. 8. In what year did the fire start? (One word) (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: The fire was extinguished in just two hours. (1 mark)

**10. 10. Which monarch was on the throne during the Great Fire? A) Charles II* B) Henry VIII
C) Elizabeth I D) Victoria (1 mark)**

Draw: Sketch a scene of 17th-century London showing the contrast between the timber-framed houses and the newly built stone structures that replaced them after the fire.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why the narrow design of London's streets contributed to the disaster. 2. Compare the firefighting methods of 1666 to modern fire safety. 3. Justify why the diary of Samuel Pepys is considered a 'primary source' by historians. 4. What might have happened to London if the wind had been blowing in a different direction? 5. Why was the rebuilding of London an opportunity to improve public health, not just safety? 6. If you were King Charles II, what one rule would you have enforced to prevent such a fire from starting again?