

The Spark of History: A Bonfire Night Quiz

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins of Bonfire Night and identify key features of its commemoration in British culture.

Join Leo the Lion on an adventure through history! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of the Gunpowder Plot to help Leo find the correct answers. Answer each question clearly.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.1605, 4.B, 5.False, 6.Parliament, 7.A, 8.True, 9.C, 10.Effigy. Historical context: The events of the Gunpowder Plot are a significant part of British history, marking a failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Today, we celebrate the safety of the monarch and the failure of the plot with communal gatherings.

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

1. In what year did the failed Gunpowder Plot take place? A) 1066 B) 1588 C) 1605* D) 1750 (1 mark)

2. True or False: Guy Fawkes was the sole person involved in the conspiracy to blow up the Houses of Parliament. (1 mark)

3. Who was the monarch on the throne of England at the time of the plot? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

4. What was the primary goal of the conspirators? A) To become famous B) To change the government* C) To start a war D) To steal gold (1 mark)

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

6. Which iconic building were the plotters planning to destroy? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

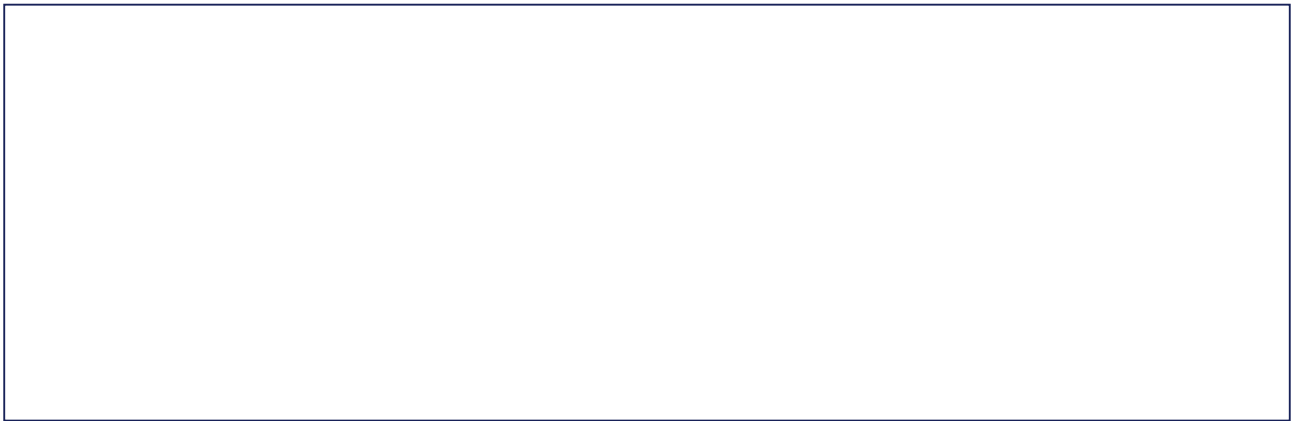
7. What do we use today to represent the 'Guy' during some traditional celebrations? A) An effigy* B) A painting C) A statue D) A photograph (1 mark)

8. True or False: The plot was discovered before the explosives were detonated. (1 mark)

9. Why are fireworks used during modern celebrations? A) To scare away animals B) To practice for other holidays C) To symbolise the explosives that were never used* D) To test new technology (1 mark)

10. What is the name given to the straw-filled model often burnt on top of a bonfire? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene of a safe, organised community bonfire celebration. Include Leo the Lion watching the display, and show at least three safety features, such as a barrier or a bucket of water nearby.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot was considered so significant to the stability of the monarchy in the 17th century. 2. Compare and contrast how people celebrated Bonfire Night in the 1600s versus how families celebrate it today. 3. Justify your answer: Is it appropriate to celebrate a historical act of treason with fireworks? Why or why not? 4. What might happen if the plot had actually succeeded? 5. Research the 'Cellar' where the gunpowder was hidden; describe its importance in the failure of the plot. 6. Write a short poem from the perspective of Leo the Lion reflecting on the importance of peace and safety during public celebrations.