A Night of Spark and Splendour: Writing about Bonfire Night

Learning objective: To use descriptive language and formal structures to recount the history and atmosphere of Bonfire Night.

Use the prompts below to build your own recount of Bonfire Night. Think about the historical context and the sensory details of the evening. Use the word bank to improve your sentence structure.

The crisp November air was filled with the faint, smoky scent of woodfire as the night sky prepared to put on its annual display.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · amidst the darkness · a cacophony of · historically · nevertheless · vibrant · commemorate · in addition to

1. Introduction: Briefly explain why we celebrate Bonfire Night. Start with: Historically, the fifth of November is a date marked by... (2 marks)

2. The Sensory Experience: Describe what you might see, hear, and smell. Start with: As the bonfire crackled into life, the surroundings were transformed by... (3 marks)

3. The Fireworks Display: Use descriptive vocabulary to explain the visual spectacle. Start with: Suddenly, the obsidian sky erupted into a kaleidoscope of colour as... (3 marks)

4. The Atmosphere: How does the community feel during this event? Start with: There was a sense of shared excitement amongst the crowd, whilst... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise your thoughts on the tradition. Start with: Ultimately, Bonfire Night remains a significant tradition because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Max the monkey is trying to calculate the cost of a fireworks display! If a box of sparklers costs £3.50 and a multi-pack of rockets costs £12.75, how much would it cost to buy two boxes of sparklers and one pack of rockets? Write down your calculation.