

Year 3 English Assessment: The Night of Sparks

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of descriptive language, sentence structure, and creative composition based on the theme of Bonfire Night.

Read the text carefully and answer all questions using your best handwriting and full sentences. Check your spelling and punctuation.

The night sky was a vast, velvet curtain, waiting for the performance to begin. Suddenly, a streak of gold pierced the darkness, followed by a thunderous boom that vibrated in the chests of the crowd. Max the monkey clapped his hands in delight as a catherine wheel spun, casting a kaleidoscope of colours against the crisp, cold air. Below, the bonfire roared, its orange tongues licking at the logs. The smell of toasted marshmallows drifted through the park, mingling with the sharp, smoky scent of spent fireworks. It was a spectacular display, turning the black night into a shimmering gallery of light.

Word bank: catherine wheel · sizzling · crackle · spectacular · illuminated · silhouette · whizzing · glowing · vibrant

1. Identify two adjectives used in the text to describe the fireworks. (2 marks)

2. Why does the author describe the night sky as a 'velvet curtain'? Explain the effect this metaphor has on the reader. (3 marks)

3. Find and copy one example of onomatopoeia from the text. Why is this word effective in helping the reader imagine the scene? (3 marks)

4. Max the monkey is watching the bonfire. Describe how the author uses personification to describe the fire's movement. (2 marks)

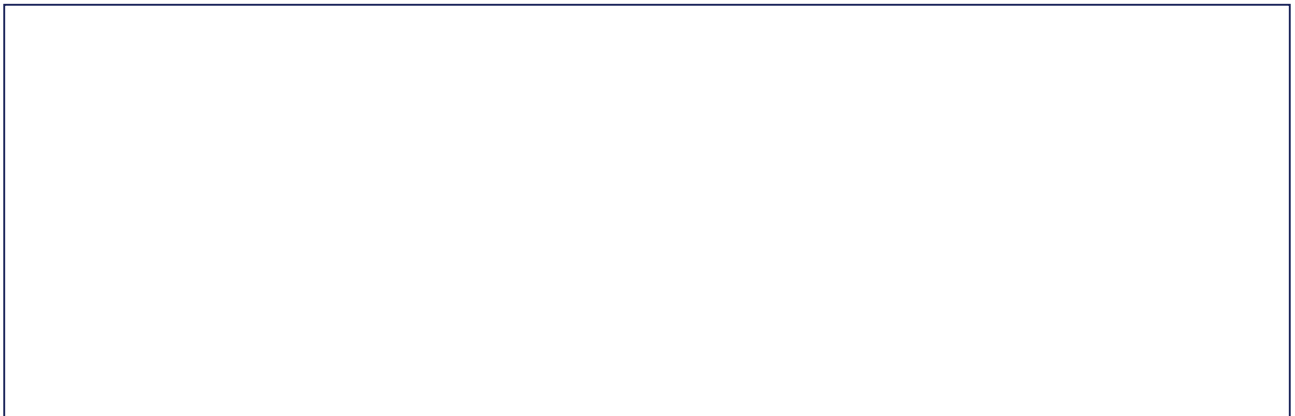
5. Imagine you are standing next to Max. Write a paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing what you can hear, smell, and see. Use at least two words from the word bank. (5 marks)

6. Compare and contrast the bonfire with the fireworks. How are they similar in their appearance, and how do they differ in their movement? (4 marks)

7. Justify why the author chose to use the word 'kaleidoscope' to describe the catherine wheel. What does this tell us about the pattern and light? (3 marks)

8. What might happen if the weather turned from 'crisp and cold' to 'heavy rain' during the display? Explain the impact this would have on the atmosphere. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from the perspective of Nova the owl, looking down at the bonfire from a high branch. Include labels using descriptive vocabulary.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a short poem about the night sky using the ABAB rhyme scheme, incorporating the theme of light and shadow.