

The Spark of History: A Bonfire Night Quiz

Learning objective: To improve reading comprehension and historical knowledge of the 5th of November, using inference and retrieval skills.

Read the short history passage below carefully. Use the information provided, along with your own knowledge of Year 3 English and history, to answer the ten quiz questions. Good luck!

On the 5th of November, many people in the United Kingdom gather to watch fireworks and light large bonfires. This tradition commemorates a famous historical event from 1605 known as the Gunpowder Plot. A group of men, including Guy Fawkes, attempted to destroy the Houses of Parliament in London. They wanted to change the government, but their plan was discovered before they could succeed. Today, we remember this night with bright displays, sparklers, and toffee apples. In some places, people build an effigy of Guy Fawkes to place on top of the bonfire. It is a time for communities to come together, though we must always remember to stay a safe distance from the flames.

Word bank: Gunpowder · Parliament · treason · Guy Fawkes · tradition · celebration · effigy · commemoration

1. Which month do we celebrate Bonfire Night? A) October B) November* C) December D) September (1 mark)

2. True or False: The Gunpowder Plot was successful in destroying the Houses of Parliament. (1 mark)

3. What is the name of the man mentioned in the passage who was part of the plot? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

4. Why do we light bonfires today? A) To keep warm in winter B) To cook dinner C) To commemorate a historical event* D) To scare away animals (1 mark)

5. What is an 'effigy' as mentioned in the text? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

6. In which city did the Gunpowder Plot take place? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

7. Which of these is NOT mentioned as a treat eaten on Bonfire Night? A) Toffee apples B) Hot chocolate* C) Sparklers D) Fireworks (1 mark)

8. True or False: The plotters wanted to keep the government exactly the same. (1 mark)

9. 9. Based on the text, what is the most important safety rule for Bonfire Night? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

10. 10. In the year 1605, the plotters bought gunpowder for £50. If they bought three barrels, what was the total cost? (Use £ symbol) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene of Nova the owl watching a colourful firework display from the safety of a tree, ensuring you include a bonfire with a bright orange glow.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1) Explain why the date 5th of November is significant to British history. 2) Compare and contrast how we celebrate Bonfire Night today versus how it might have been celebrated in the 1600s. 3) Justify your answer: Why is it important that we remember historical events like the Gunpowder Plot? 4) What might happen if the plot had been successful? 5) Describe the sensory experience of a fireworks display using at least three adjectives. 6) If a box of sparklers costs £2.50, calculate the change from a £10 note if you buy three boxes.