

A Night of Sparks: Descriptive Writing for Bonfire Night

Learning objective: To use descriptive language, including expanded noun phrases and sensory imagery, to write a recount of a Bonfire Night celebration.

Use the prompts below to build your descriptive account of Bonfire Night. Think about the sights, sounds, and smells of the evening. Use the word bank to help connect your ideas.

The crisp November air bit at my cheeks as the first rocket soared into the velvet sky, scattering a thousand golden embers above the bonfire.

Word bank: shimmering · deafening · crackling · vibrant · consequently · meanwhile · as if by magic · illuminated · whistling · in the blink of an eye

1. The Arrival: Describe the setting as you arrive at the celebration. What can you see and hear? Start your paragraph with: The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as... (2 marks)

2. The Bonfire: Describe the fire. What does it look like? What sounds does it make? Start your paragraph with: In the centre of the field, the bonfire roared like a wild beast... (2 marks)

3. The Fireworks: Focus on the display in the sky. Use verbs like 'exploded', 'danced', or 'cascaded'. Start your paragraph with: Suddenly, the night sky was transformed into a canvas of colour... (2 marks)

4. The Treats: Describe the food or drink (e.g., hot chocolate or toffee apples). Start your paragraph with: To warm our frozen fingers, we enjoyed... (2 marks)

5. The Conclusion: How did the evening end? How did you feel as you left? Start your paragraph with: As the final spark faded, I felt... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Challenge yourself to include one simile and one metaphor in your writing. Can you also include a sentence that uses a relative clause, such as 'The fireworks, which lit up the entire park, were truly magnificent'?