The Great Fire of London
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Janet Hardy-Gould

Illustrated by Lyn Stone

Janet Hardy-Gould has worked as a teacher of English for many years. In her free time she enjoys reading history books and modern novels, visiting other European countries, and drinking tea with her friends. She lives in the ancient town of Lewes in the south of England with her husband, and their two children. She has written a number of books, including Henry VIII and his Six Wives, and King Arthur in the Oxford Bookworms series, and Mulan, Sinbad and Ibn Battuta in the Dominoes series.
BEFORE READING

1 Complete these sentences about the Great Fire of London.

a  The fire happens in the year . . .

1 □ 1666.
2 □ 1936.

b  The fire starts . . .

1 □ at a baker’s.
2 □ in the street.
3 □ in someone’s garden.

c  The fire stops . . .

1 □ after ten hours.
2 □ after five days.
3 □ after three months.

2 Your house is on fire! What three things do you take with you?

a  ................................

b  ................................

c  .................................
It is the year 1666. London is an old **city** with lots of **narrow** streets.

A lot of people are ill because there are **rats** in all the streets and the houses.

**city** (plural **cities**) a big and important town

**narrow** not very big

**rat** an animal like a big mouse; it is often dirty and can make people ill
One evening, a **baker**, Thomas Farriner, and his daughter, Harriet, are making bread.

It is late. ‘We must work quickly,’ says Thomas. ‘We need this bread for the **King** in the morning.’

Just then, Mary, the baker’s **maid**, comes in. ‘You’re late, Mary!’ says Thomas. ‘Sorry, Mr Farriner,’ says Mary.

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**baker** a person who makes bread  
**king** the most important man in a country; the king here is Charles II, King of England 1660–1685  
**maid** a woman who works in a rich person’s house
Thomas, Harriet and Mary make bread for two hours.

Then Mr Farriner’s wife, Anne, calls down to them. ‘Time for bed, girls,’ she says. ‘We’re just finishing,’ says Harriet.

Harriet and Mary go up to bed. Thomas takes the bread from the oven.

**oven** this is hot and it has a door; you make things to eat in it.
‘Good. The **fire** is nearly **out** now,’ thinks Thomas.

‘Thomas!’ calls Anne. ‘What are you doing? It’s very late.’

Thomas goes up to bed but he doesn’t close the oven door.

An hour later the baker’s shop is **on fire**.

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**fire** this is red and hot, and it burns  
**out** not burning; with no fire  
**on fire** when something is on fire, it is red, hot and burning
‘Wake up girls! Wake up!’ cries Anne. ‘The house is on fire!’

‘Quick. Open the window,’ says Thomas. ‘Let’s go up on the roof.’

Thomas jumps to the house next door.

Anne and Harriet follow him.

But Mary stays on the roof of the baker’s shop. ‘Jump over here!’ they all cry. ‘Jump!’ ‘I can’t,’ says Mary. ‘I’m afraid.’

**Vocabulary**

- **wake up** to stop sleeping
- **cry** to call or say noisily
- **roof** the top of a building
- **jump** to move fast on your legs from one thing to a different thing
- **next door** next to his house
- **follow** to go after someone
READING CHECK

Match the two parts of the sentences.

a  Thomas Farriner is …
b  Thomas makes some bread …
c  Harriet and Mary help …
d  Thomas doesn’t close …
e  Thomas goes up…
f  An hour later, the shop is …
g  Thomas, Anne and Harriet jump …
h  Mary is …

1  for the King.
2  to bed.
3  afraid.
4  a baker.
5  on fire.
6  across to the next door roof.
7  Thomas to make the bread.
8  the oven door.

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 1 to match the pictures.

a  k i n g
b  r ___
c  c ___
d  f ___ ___ ___

e  m ___
f  w ___ u ___
g  f ___
h  n ___ ___ ___
2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.

a In 1666, Charles II is the …………….. of England.
b London is a very big ..................
c Thomas Farriner and his wife ………………….. early every morning
to make bread for the King.
d A lot of smoke is coming from that house. Quick! It’s on ........................
e ‘Look there’s a very big mouse over there!’ ‘That isn’t a mouse, it’s a ......................!’
f I’m sorry. I can’t ..................... you onto the roof. I’m afraid!
g The old streets in this town are very ..................
h Some rich people have a ..................... working in their house.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick two boxes.

a □ Mary jumps to the next door roof.

b □ Mary doesn’t jump because she is afraid.

c □ Thomas goes back to help Mary.

d □ Thomas, Harriet and Anne go down a ladder.
People come out of their houses. They all look up at Mary. ‘Jump now!’ they cry.

‘I can’t!’ says Mary. ‘Please help me!’

‘I’m going back,’ says Thomas. ‘We can’t leave her. Wait here.’

‘Don’t go, Thomas!’ cries Anne. ‘Look, now this house is on fire, too.’
Just then, someone brings a ladder. Thomas, Anne and Harriet quickly climb down.

Ten minutes later . . .
‘Oh mother,’ says Harriet. ‘Poor Mary, she’s – she’s dead.’
‘Don’t cry, my love,’ says her mother.

‘Look at our shop, our things, our home!’ says Thomas. ‘We have nothing. What can we do now?’
There is a **strong wind**, and the fire **spreads** quickly to more houses in Pudding **Lane**. ‘Where are the **fire-fighters**?’ everybody asks.

![Image of people running from a fire]

Just then twenty fire-fighters arrive. They begin to put water on the fire.

‘Bring more water!’ they cry. ‘We need more water now.’

![Image of fire-fighters carrying buckets]

But the fire is **out of control**, and soon all the houses in Pudding Lane are on fire.

**strong** very fast  
**wind** air that moves  
**spread** to move to other houses  
**fire-fighter** a person who stops fires  
**lane** a narrow road  
**out of control** when you cannot stop something or make it do what you want
The people in the street begin to ask: ‘Where is the **Lord Mayor** of London?’ ‘He’s **asleep** in bed,’ says an old man. ‘We want the Lord Mayor!’ cry the people.

‘Go and find the Lord Mayor. He lives in Maiden Lane,’ says the **chief** fire-fighter to a boy. ‘He must come quickly.’

‘What can we do?’ asks Anne. ‘We can’t stay here.’ ‘Let’s go down to the **River Thames**,’ cries Thomas. ‘Follow me!’
READING CHECK

Are these sentences true or false? Tick the boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a</th>
<th>Mary jumps to the house next door.</th>
<th>True</th>
<th>False</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>Thomas wants to help Mary.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>Thomas, Anne and Harriet die.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>The house next to the baker’s shop is soon on fire.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>A hundred fire-fighters come to Pudding Lane.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>Someone says, ‘The Lord Mayor lives in Pudding Lane.’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>Thomas, Anne and Harriet stay near the fire.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 2 in the ladder.
2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete these sentences.

a  The Farriner family ................. climb ................. down the ladder.

b  There is a very ...................... and this makes the fire worse.

c  The fire ......................... quickly to more houses.

d  Nobody can stop the fire because it is ......................

e  The ......................... fire-fighter wants to see the Lord Mayor.

f  People say, 'The Lord Mayor is ...................... in his bed.'

g  The Farriner family go down to the ...................... Thames.

GUESS WHAT

In the next chapter we meet Samuel Pepys. Look at his picture and tick the boxes.

Samuel Pepys ........

a  □ is thirty-three years old.
   □ is seventy-three years old.

b  □ works in a book shop.
   □ writes in his diary every day.

c  □ goes to look at the fire.
   □ runs away from the fire.
Chapter 3

In a different part of London, Samuel Pepys is asleep in his bed.

Pepys works for the government.

At home he writes a diary every day.

Pepys has a maid called Jane. At three o’clock in the morning she comes to his room. ‘Wake up, sir!’ she says. ‘There’s a fire in the city!’

part some, but not all of something

Pepys /piːps/  the people who work with the king to decide what happens in the country
diary a book where you write about what happens every day

sir you say this when you talk to a rich or important man
Pepys goes to the window and looks out across London.

‘It isn’t a big fire,’ he says to Jane. ‘I’m going back to bed. Good night.’

An hour later, Jane comes back. ‘Sir, there are more than three hundred houses on fire!’ she cries.

Pepys jumps out of bed. He quickly puts on his clothes.

clothes  people wear these
'I must go to the **Tower** of London,’ says Pepys. ‘I can see everything from there.’

Near the Tower, Pepys meets his good friend, Richard Moore.

‘What’s happening?’ asks Pepys. ‘It’s very bad **news**,’ says Moore. ‘There’s a big fire down near the river. Everybody says it’s out of control.’

They climb up the hill to the Tower. It is now six o’clock in the morning.

tower a tall building

news when someone tells you something new
Big clouds of smoke are beginning to spread across London. Bells are ringing from every church in the city.

‘Listen to those bells!’ says Moore. ‘And look! Some of the houses near London Bridge are now on fire.’

‘Let’s run down to the River Thames,’ cries Pepys. ‘Perhaps we can help the people there.’

cloud a big white or grey thing in the sky
bell a metal thing that makes a noise when you move it
ring to make a noise like a bell
church Christian people go here to pray
bridge people can go across a river on this
READING CHECK

Put these sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–8.

a  □  Pepys meets

b  □  An hour later, Jane comes back. ‘Three hundred houses are on fire!’ she cries.

c  □  The fire isn’t very big, and Pepys goes back to

d  □  Moore and Pepys go down to the

e  □  Pepys is

f  □  Pepys quickly puts on his

ɡ  □  Jane wakes up Pepys. She tells him about the

h  □  Pepys leaves the house. He goes to the
WORD WORK

Use the words in the Tower of London to complete Pepys’s diary.

Sunday, 2 September, 1666

I am sitting and writing my
diary
(a) ................. . I can hear something
through my open window. All the
(b) ................ in every
(c) ................ in London are
(d) ................ now. I can see
something through my window too. There are
(e) ................ of smoke over the city.
I must put on my (f) ............... and
go out soon. I want to climb up the
(g) ................ of London and look
down on the fire! I want to walk across
London (h) ............... and see the fire
from across the river! The King and the
(i) ................ must do something to
stop the fire soon.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

Pepys ...

a  talks to the chief fire-fighter.

Yes  No

b  helps the fire-fighters.

c  goes to the Lord Mayor’s house.

d  goes to speak to the King of England.

e  meets the Farriner family.
Chapter 4

Pepys and Moore arrive at the river. **Crowds** of people are running down to the river **bank**. The fire is now in the next street.

Families leave their houses with their hands **full**. They are **carrying** their things away from the fire.

Everybody wants a **boat** on the river. ‘Over here!’ cries a young man to the people in the boats. ‘I’m first,’ says an old woman.

Three people climb quickly into one of the boats. It is the Farriner family from Pudding Lane.

crowd a lot of people together
bank where you can walk next to a river
full with things in them
carry to take
boat you go across water in this
‘It’s Thomas Farriner from Pudding Lane,’ cries a man in the crowd. ‘Tell us about the fire in your baker’s shop!’ Thomas is **frightened**. ‘I . . . I’m not a baker,’ he says. ‘I have a flower shop in Cat Street.’

The Farriner family leave quickly and go down the river in the boat.

Pepys and Moore walk nearer to the fire. There are clouds of smoke, and thousands of rats are in the streets. They are running from the **burning** houses.
Just then, they meet twenty fire-fighters outside a burning building. They are putting water on the fire but it is spreading quickly.

‘Can you stop the fire?’ Pepys asks the chief fire-fighter. ‘It’s no good,’ he answers. ‘There’s nothing we can do.’ ‘But you must blow up the buildings in front of the fire!’ says Pepys. ‘Then it can’t spread to different parts of the city.’

‘But we need to ask Thomas Bludworth, the Lord Mayor,’ says the chief fire-fighter. ‘Where is he?’ asks Pepys. ‘Nobody knows,’ he answers.

outside  in front of  

blow up  to break into small pieces noisily
‘What can we do?’ shouts Moore.
‘We must speak to the King,’ says Pepys.
‘Come on. Let’s find a boat. We can go up the river to Whitehall Palace. Perhaps we can speak to the King there.’

Pepys and Moore go quickly up the River Thames. It is eleven o’clock in the morning but the sky is black with clouds of smoke.

The wind is stronger, and many streets are now on fire. The houses on London Bridge are burning fast, and people are jumping into the river.

**palace** a big house where a king lives
READING CHECK

Choose the correct pictures.

a  A lot of families go to the . . .

b  Some people feel . . . when they see Thomas Farriner.

c  Thomas Farriner says 'I have a . . . shop.'

d  In the streets there are a lot of . . .

e  Pepys and Moore talk to . . .

f  Pepys takes a . . . to the King's palace.
WORD WORK

1 Find nine more words from Chapter 4 in the wordsquare.

```
 f b a n k g a e o s
 p x c r o w d c u w
 a u v b s u f w t e
 l s f u l l r b s n
 a l n r z a k o i e
 c e f n u l v a d b
 e o r i r f o t e c
 w k p n p c a r r y
 f r i g h t e n e d
 o q b l o w u p p z a
```

2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.

a The fire-fighters must stop the fire; they must .................. the houses.

b We can go for a long walk on the .................. of the river.

c ‘Shall I .................. those bags for you?’ ‘Yes, please, I’m very tired.’

d There’s a lot of smoke in the house. Something is ..................

e The children are very .................. of those big dogs.

f The King lives in a very big ..................

g ‘Where’s Richard?’ ‘Look, he’s .................. that shop over there.’

h A .................. of people are waiting for the film star at the airport.

i You can travel to our country by .................. or by plane.

j ‘Can you open the door for me?’ ‘No, sorry, my hands are ..................’

GUESS WHAT

What happens at the King’s palace? Tick two boxes.

The King ...

a ☐ doesn’t talk to Pepys.

b ☐ laughs at Pepys.

c ☐ listens carefully to Pepys.

d ☐ gives Pepys some money.

e ☐ gives Pepys a letter for the Lord Mayor.

f ☐ goes to the fire with Pepys.
They arrive at the Palace of Whitehall. ‘We’re here to see the King,’ says Pepys at the front door.

‘What’s your name?’ asks the guard. ‘Samuel Pepys.’ ‘Wait here, sir,’ says the guard.

A crowd of men is standing outside the door. They are all talking excitedly. ‘We must wait for rain,’ says one old man. ‘No, we must bring more water from the river,’ says a young man.

‘But we need more fire-fighters to do that!’ cries a third man.

guard a man who stops people from going into a building
‘What do you two think?’ the young man calls to Pepys and Moore.

Pepys walks over to the crowd of men. ‘There is only one solution,’ he says. ‘We must blow up the buildings in front of the fire.’

Suddenly, everybody goes quiet. ‘Blow up the buildings in front of the fire?’ says the young man. He is surprised. ‘Yes, that’s right,’ says Pepys.

Just then the guard cries: ‘The King wants to see Samuel Pepys.’ Now Pepys is surprised.
Pepys goes into the King’s room. ‘Your Majesty, this is Samuel Pepys,’ says the guard.

‘Good morning, Mr Pepys,’ says the King. ‘I hear you have news about the fire. Is this true?’

‘Yes, Your Majesty,’ says Pepys.

‘The fire is now out of control, Your Majesty,’ says Pepys. ‘We must do something very quickly.’

‘But what?’ asks the King.

‘The fire-fighters must blow up the houses in front of the fire,’ says Pepys.

‘Yes!’ cries the King. ‘That’s the solution! We must blow up the houses. Then the fire can’t spread.’

*Your Majesty* you say this when you talk to a king or a queen
The King writes a **letter**. ‘Give this letter to Thomas Bludworth, the Lord Mayor,’ he says.

‘Nobody can find him,’ says Pepys. ‘You must find him!’ says the King.

‘Take one of my **coaches**. Go quickly back to the fire and find the Lord Mayor,’ says the King.

Pepys and Moore go outside at once and jump into the King’s coach. Pepys is carrying the King’s letter. They drive **madly** through the narrow streets. ‘Faster, faster!’ calls Pepys to the coach driver.

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**letter** a piece of paper with writing on it; you send it to someone  
**coach** a kind of car with horses  
**madly** quickly and without thinking
READING CHECK

Choose the correct words to complete these sentences.

a  At the door of the palace, Pepys talks to a  guards  maid.
b  Outside the palace, Pepys meets a crowd of  women  men.
c  Moore Pepys talks to the King.
d  The King  wants  doesn't want  to blow up the houses.
e  The King gives Pepys a  letter  bag of money.
f  The King wants Pepys to find the  Lord Mayor  the chief fire-fighter.
g  Pepys goes back to the fire in the King’s  boat  coach.

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 5 in these sentences and complete the puzzle below.

a  You must say ‘Your  ajyMes  to a king.
b  Pepys travels in the King’s  cobs.
c  ‘How can we stop the fire?’ asks the King. Pepys finds the  toslinou  to the King’s question.
d  A  durag  takes Pepys to see the King.
e  Pepys and Moore drive  laymd  through the streets.
f  Pepys is very  pesirdurs  when the King wants to see him.
g  loyn  nine people die in the Great Fire.
h  The King gives Pepys a  telter  for the Lord Mayor.

2 Read the blue squares and write down the name of the high building on page 31.
**GUESS WHAT**

What happens in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

**a** Pepys is angry with . . .
1 ☐ Richard Moore.
2 ☐ the Lord Mayor.
3 ☐ the chief fire-fighter.

**b** Who writes about the fire in his diary?
1 ☐ the King.
2 ☐ Thomas Farriner.
3 ☐ Samuel Pepys.

**c** The fire burns for . . .
1 ☐ one more day.
2 ☐ three more days.
3 ☐ one more week.

**d** The fire burns . . .
1 ☐ 300 houses.
2 ☐ 3,000 houses.
3 ☐ 13,000 houses.

*The ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (1669) to remember the Great Fire of London. You can walk up it today.*
Chapter 6

In the end, Pepys finds the Lord Mayor. ‘Ah, here you are!’ Pepys cries angrily. ‘Everybody is looking for you!’

‘Hello, Pepys,’ says the Lord Mayor. ‘I’m very tired – I must sit down.’

‘Here is a letter from the King,’ says Pepys. ‘You must blow up the buildings in front of the fire.’

‘I know,’ says the Lord Mayor. ‘I want to pull down houses near the fire but nobody listens to me. People don’t want to lose their homes.’

**tired** you feel tired when you need to sit down or sleep

**pull down** to make a building come down
The men blow up some houses but they are very near to the fire. ‘It’s no good,’ says Pepys to the soldiers. ‘You must blow up buildings one street away from the fire.’

Just then some of the King’s soldiers arrive.
‘Lord Mayor, we are here to blow up houses,’ says one of the soldiers.
‘Yes,’ says the Lord Mayor.
‘Good luck! I’m going home now. I’m tired and dirty, and I want to change my clothes.’
‘But . . . Lord Mayor. Wait!’ call the soldiers.
‘Goodbye,’ says the Lord Mayor.

The soldiers pull down houses and blow up shops. It is now nine o’clock on Sunday evening. Pepys and Moore go home.
For three more days the Great Fire of London burns. Frightened people and hungry rats run madly through the streets.

The fire spreads to the most important houses and churches in the city. Old St Paul’s Cathedral burns day and night.

Day after day the fire-fighters . . .

. . . and soldiers work to stop the fire.

great very big or important burn to be on fire cathedral a big important church
On the fourth day the wind changes **direction** and the fire slowly stops. The fire-fighters stand and watch for the first time in days.

Many people come back to look for their houses and shops but they find nothing.

At home Pepys begins to write about the fire in his diary. He knows the government must work a lot to help the people of London.

**direction** where something is going
Five days later, Pepys and Moore climb up the tower of the last church in the **centre** of London.

They look over the city.
‘What a black day,’ says Pepys. ‘Over thirteen thousand houses and ninety churches . . . and now there is nothing.’
‘Don’t feel bad about that,’ says Moore. ‘**Instead** let’s remember something important. Only nine people are dead.’

**centre** the part in the middle

**instead** in the place of something
Fifty years later London is a very different city. There are no more old narrow streets in the city centre, but beautiful **wide** streets instead. And a new St Paul’s Cathedral stands not far from the banks of the River Thames. But the most important thing is . . .

. . . there are no more rats.

**wide** not narrow
READING CHECK

Choose the right words to finish the sentences.

a When the soldiers arrive, the Lord Mayor goes . . .
   1 ☑ home.
   2 □ to the King’s palace.
   3 □ to the Tower of London.

d After four days the wind . . .
   1 □ stops.
   2 □ changes direction.
   3 □ becomes stronger.

b At first the soldiers blow up buildings . . .
   1 □ in the fire.
   2 □ very near the fire.
   3 □ one street away from the fire.

e In the Great Fire of London . . .
   1 □ nine people die.
   2 □ ninety people die.
   3 □ nine hundred people die.

c St Paul’s Cathedral . . .
   1 □ burns for a long time.
   2 □ burns for a short time.
   3 □ isn’t in the fire.

f Fifty years later London has . . .
   1 □ a new cathedral.
   2 □ a lot of rats.
   3 □ beautiful narrow streets.

WORD WORK

1 Find the words from Chapter 6.

a burns . . .

b s . . .

c i . . .

d t . . .

e w . . .

f d . . .

g c . . .

h c . . .
2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.

a The Great Fire of London ................. for five days.
b A church is smaller than a .................
c The Lord Mayor is very ................. and he wants to go to sleep.
d The fire-fighters can’t stop the fire by pulling down houses; they must blow up the houses .................
e The wind changes ................. after four days and the fire stops.
f A ................. is a person who works in the army.
g The new ................. of London has beautiful ................. streets.

GUESS WHAT

What happens to Samuel Pepys after the fire? Tick two boxes.

a □ He meets and loves the King’s daughter.
b □ The King gives him a big house and a lot of money.
c □ He becomes an important person in the government.
d □ After the fire he stops working and is a very poor man.
e □ He is the next Lord Mayor of London.
f □ Lots of people read about the fire in his diary hundreds of years later.
Project A  Famous Disasters

1 Use the words in the box to complete this news report about the Eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

boats burning city clouds crowds direction frightened jump letter on fire

24 August, 79

VESUVIUS IS ERUPTING

Mount Vesuvius is erupting. (a)...................... rocks are falling on the (b)..................... of Pompeii below. The sky is black with (c)..................... of ash, and the city is (d)..................... (e)..................... of (f)..................... people are running from their houses. They are running in the (g)..................... of the sea and waiting for (h)..................... to take them away.

From the town of Misenum across the sea, Pliny the younger is writing about the disaster in a (i)..................... to a friend. His uncle, Pliny the older, tells all the boats to go across the sea. Pliny the older is going with them to help the people in Pompeii. Twenty thousand people (j)..................... into boats and get away. But Pliny the older and over two thousand people are left in the burning city. They are all dead under the burning rocks and ash.
2 Use the information in Activity 1 to complete the table.

**DISASTER NAME**

The Eruption of Vesuvius

**WHERE AND WHEN?**


**WHAT IS HAPPENING?**


**WHAT ARE PEOPLE DOING?**


**WHAT IS PLINY THE YOUNGER DOING?**


**WHAT IS PLINY THE OLDER DOING?**


**HOW MANY PEOPLE GET AWAY?**


**HOW MANY ARE DEAD?**


3 Complete this table about the Great Fire of London.

**DISASTER NAME**

The Great Fire of London

**WHERE AND WHEN?**


**WHAT IS HAPPENING?**


**WHAT ARE PEOPLE DOING?**


**WHAT ARE THE FIRE-FIGHTERS DOING?**


**WHAT IS PEPYS DOING?**


**HOW MANY ARE DEAD?**


4 Now write a news report about the Great Fire of London. Begin your report like this.

**3 September 1666**

This is the second day of the fire and the city of London is burning.
1 Who are these people from *The Great Fire of London*? Match the two parts of the sentences.

a Thomas Farriner . . .  
b Mary . . .  
c Anne Farriner . . .  
d Samuel Pepys . . .  
e Charles II . . .  
f Thomas Bludworth . . .  
g Harriet Farriner . . .  
h Jane . . .  
i Richard Moore . . .

1 is the baker’s wife.  
2 is the baker’s maid.  
3 is the baker’s daughter.  
4 is the Lord Mayor of London.  
5 is the baker to the King.  
6 works for the government and writes in his diary every day.  
7 is Samuel Pepys’s maid.  
8 is Samuel Pepys’s good friend.  
9 is the King of England.

2 Use these words to complete this conversation.

girls remember shop smoke talking wake where

ANNE (a) ................. up Thomas! There’s a fire!  
THOMAS A fire? (b) ................. is it?  
ANNE I think it’s down in the (c) .................  
There’s a lot of (d) ................. on the stairs.  
THOMAS Oh no! I (e) ................. now! The oven door!  
ANNE What are you (f) ................. about?  
THOMAS Oh, it’s not important.  
ANNE Quick. Let’s go and tell the (g) .................  
Come on!
3 Here’s another conversation. What does Pepys say? Complete the conversation.

JANE  Wake up, sir! There’s a fire in the city.
PEPYS  (a) ...........................................................
JANE  Over there. Look out of the window.
PEPYS  (b) ...........................................................
JANE  But it’s spreading very fast, sir.
PEPYS  (c) ...........................................................
JANE  Back to bed sir? I’m afraid! The fire is out of control.
PEPYS  (d) ...........................................................
JANE  They are putting water on the fire, but the wind is making the fire stronger.
PEPYS  (e) ...........................................................
4 Choose one of these pictures from the story. Write the conversation.

5 Now read your conversation with a friend.
GRAMMAR CHECK

Present Simple: affirmative and negative

We make most Present Simple affirmative verbs with the **infinitive without to**. We add *-s* or *-es* to make the third person singular form.

*Just then Mary comes in.*
*Thomas goes up to bed.*

We make most third person Present Simple negative verbs with **doesn’t/don’t + infinitive without to**.

*He doesn’t close the oven door.*
*They don’t live next to the river.*

The Present Simple affirmative of **be → is/are**, and the Present Simple negative of **be → isn’t/aren’t**.

*The fire isn’t very big.*
*All the houses are on fire.*

1 Put the verbs in brackets into the Present Simple – affirmative or negative.

Today, London a) ................ (have) a very important mayor: the Lord Mayor of London. Every year, there is a ‘Lord Mayor’s Show’. The new Lord Mayor b) ................ (go) through the streets of the old centre of London. Of course, the Lord Mayor c) ................ (not walk). He d) ................ (drive) in a wonderful old coach with beautiful horses! And he e) ................ (not wear) usual clothes. He f) ................ (put on) a red coat and a big black hat.

The show g) ................ (begin) at 11 o’clock in the morning and the Lord Mayor h) ................ (move) slowly through the streets in his coach for about three hours. Many people from different countries i) ................ (come) to watch, but they j) ................ (not know) the Lord Mayor’s name because he k) ................ (not be) a very famous person! All the people at the Lord Mayor’s Show l) ................ (have) an exciting time. The show m) ................ (finish) at 5 o’clock with lots of fireworks over the River Thames. The Lord Mayor n) ................ (watch) the fireworks and then o) ................ (say) goodbye to the crowd.
GRAMMAR CHECK

Modal auxiliary verbs: must

We use must + infinitive without to when we think it is necessary or very important to do something, or when it is an obligation.

*I must go to the Tower of London.*

*She must climb down the ladder.*

*We must help the people of London.*

2 Complete the sentences with *must* and the verbs in the box.

| blow up | come | help | jump | arrive | sit down | speak |

a You *must jump* to the house next door, Mary!

b The fire-fighters *must* quickly.

c Where is the Lord Mayor? He *must* here soon to see the fire!

d I *must* to the King of England! It’s very important.

e I’m very tired. I *must* in a chair.

f We *must* the houses in front of the fire.

g The government *must* the people of London.

3 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

a the / bread / King / must / they / make / for / nice

*They must make nice bread for the King.*

b fire-fighters / find / more / water / the / must

*Fire-fighters must find more water.*

c must / out / Pepys / of / quickly / jump / bed

*Pepys must jump out of bed quickly.*

d now / house / must / leave / I / the

*I must leave the house now.*

e the / find / a / you / on / boat / river / must

*You must find a boat on the river.*
GRAMMAR CHECK

Subject and object pronouns
We use subject pronouns — I, you, he, she, it, we, and they — to replace subject nouns. Subject pronouns go in front of the main verb.

Mary helps to bake bread. She helps to bake bread.
The Mayor isn’t here. He is asleep.

We use object pronouns — me, you, him, her, it, us, and them — to replace object nouns. Object pronouns go after the main verb. They can also go after prepositions.

That’s the baker! I know him. Where are the guards? I can’t see them.
Pepys finds the King and he speaks to him.

4 Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

a London is an old city. It/He has lots of narrow streets.
b There are rats in all the streets and the houses. People don’t like they/them!
c An old woman gets into a boat. She/Her is frightened.
d Samuel Pepys is in bed. Him/He is asleep.
e The fire is very bad. The fire-fighters must stop it/them.
f ’I want to see Pepys,’ says the King. ’Bring him to I/me.’

5 Complete the sentences. Use the subject and object pronouns in the box.

he her it you I they
she them him you

a Harriet is sixteen. She lives over a shop. Many young men like .............
b The baker starts the fire. Everybody is angry with ............., so ............. runs away.
c The rats run through the streets. ............. are very big and nobody likes .............!
d ’Are ............. afraid of the fire?’ ’Yes, ............. am!’
e Please open this letter from the King. He wants ............. to read ............. now.
GRAMMAR CHECK

Adjectives: order before nouns
We use adjectives to describe nouns. Adjectives go in front of a noun.

*London has old, narrow streets.*

When there is more than one adjective, we put the adjective that gives our opinion first.

*an interesting, new cathedral*  
*a nice, big, green boat.*

We usually put adjectives in this order:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 Opinion</th>
<th>2 Size</th>
<th>3 Age</th>
<th>4 Shape</th>
<th>5 Colour</th>
<th>6 Nationality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>wonderful</td>
<td>big</td>
<td>old</td>
<td>narrow</td>
<td>blue</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>little</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>wide</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>French</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

a great / English / he’s / writer / a  
*He’s a great English writer.*

b maid / a / new / nice / she’s  

c rats / brown / they’re / long  

d old / he’s / bad / mayor / a  

e a / man / he’s / young / tall  

7 What can people see 50 years after the Great Fire of London? Put the words in brackets in the correct order and write sentences.

a There are a lot of streets. (wide / nice / big)

*There are a lot of nice, big, wide streets...*

b There’s a cathedral. (white / beautiful)

.................................

c There are some shops. (French / new / wonderful)

.................................

d There’s a bridge. (narrow / old)

.................................

e There are a lot of houses. (red / new / nice)

.................................
GRAMMAR CHECK

Everybody, everything, nobody, nothing, somebody, and something
We use everybody and everything to talk about ‘all the people’ and ‘all the things’.
Everybody wants a boat on the river. I can see everything from here.
We use nobody and nothing to talk about ‘no person or people’ or ‘no thing or things’.
Nobody listens to me. We have nothing.
We use somebody and something to talk about an unknown person or thing.
Somebody brings a ladder. We must do something about the fire.

8 Write the sentences again. Use everybody, everything, nobody, nothing, somebody, or something.

a  All the people must leave the city. Everybody must leave the city...
b  No person can stop the fire. ..............................................
c  There’s a person on the roof! ..............................................
d  We must take all the things out of our house. ..............................................
e  After the fire, there’s not one thing left in the centre of London.
 ..............................................
f  I can see a thing in the river. ..............................................

9 Complete the dialogue with the words in the box.

| somebody | everybody | nobody | nothing | something |

King Mr Pepys, you know a) something about the fire. Please tell me.
Pepys Your Majesty, the fire is out of control. We must blow up the houses in front of it.
King Oh dear! b) ............. must find the Lord Mayor quickly.
Pepys Yes, Your Majesty, but c) ............. can find him!
King Take one of my coaches now. Oh, and Pepys – is the cathedral all right?
Pepys No, Your Majesty, d) ............. is safe and e) ............. is frightened. The fire is very big.
Suffixes: -ed and -ing

We can add the suffixes -ed and -ing to a verb or noun to make some adjectives.

Adjectives with -ed usually describe how somebody feels.

Mary is frightened of the fire.
Samuel Pepys is in bed because he is tired.

Adjectives with -ing usually describe something.

The fire is frightening.
His work is very tiring.

10 Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

a  The Lord Mayor is **tired**/tiring because he always sleeps badly.

b  Samuel Pepys’s diary is very interested/interesting.

c  The men are excited/exciting when they meet the King.

d  People are surprised/surprising about the number of houses on fire.

e  The fire is spreading. It’s very frightened/frightening.

f  Are you interested/interesting in the King’s palace?

g  The news about the fire isn’t surprised/surprising.

11 Complete the sentences with the correct adjectives.

a  London is a very in **interesting** city.

b  Mary is too fr********** to jump to the house next door.

c  Pepys is in********* in the Great Fire of London.

d  Making bread is ti********* work.

e  The fire in Pudding Lane is fr**********

f  The King is su********** because nobody can find the Lord Mayor.

g  Harriet and Mary go up to bed because they are ti**********

h  The crowd at the Palace of Whitehall are ex**********
GRAMMAR CHECK

Plural nouns

We usually add -s to singular nouns to make plural nouns.

maid – maids    bridge – bridges    river – rivers

When a noun ends in –sh, –ch, –s, –ss, –x, or –z, we add –es to make the plural.

bus – buses    dress – dresses    watch – watches    box – boxes

When a noun ends in a consonant + –y, we change the y to i and add –es.

country – countries    story – stories    family – families

Some nouns have irregular plurals.


12 Complete the sentences with a plural noun. Use the words in the box.

| child | church | city | coach | day | diary | person |

a The children run away from the fire.

b In 1666, London is one of the biggest ............... in the world.

c When the fire begins, all the bells ring in the ............... .

d Pepys and Moore drive through the streets in one of the King’s ............... .

e The Great Fire of London stops after five ............... .

f Only nine ............... die in the Great Fire of London.

g Samuel Pepys’s ............... are now very famous books.

13 Correct the text.

When the fire begins, all the a) persons run out of their b) housses to see it. The c) boyes and d) girles are frightened. Everybody tells e) storys about the burning city. When the fire gets worse, all the f) ratts come out of the g) buildinges, too. The h) mans, i) womans and j) childs of London all run through the k) streetes to the l) bankes of the River Thames. Two or three m) familys jump into n) boatts and they go down the river, away from the fire.
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The Great Fire of London

It’s London, 1666. It’s a hot, dry summer. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop the fire. People are running from their houses down to the River Thames.

But how does the fire begin and who can stop it? What is the King of England doing to help?

Illustrated by Lyn Stone
Cover image courtesy of Bridgeman Images (The Great Fire of London with Ludgate and Old St Paul’s, c.1670, English School/ Yale Center for British Art, Paul Mellon Collection, USA)

*Dramatized audio available*

Series Editors: Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter

*Word count 1,901*

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