

The Diary of

Sunday 2nd September 1666

Dear Diary,

I woke up this morning. I saw a big fire out of my window.

It began in a bakery and 300 houses have been burnt down. I began to panic. The fire is spreading. I think that my house will burn down!



Monday 3rd September 1666



Dear Diary,

The fire is getting bigger! I am very scared. It is getting closer to my house! I hid all of my money in the cellar to keep it safe.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

I put all of my best things in a cart. I took them to my friend's house. I was in a hurry. I just wore my nightgown! I will have to bury my wine and cheese in the garden if this fire gets worse.



Disclaimer: Please note: although Samuel Pepys is an important witness to the Great Fire of London, we would advise against further study of his life with your class, as his personal relationships were not always appropriate by modern standards.

Questions

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ a house
- ☐ a bakery
- ☐ a church

2. When did Samuel Pepys hide his money? Tick one.

- ☐ Sunday
- ☐ Monday
- ☐ Tuesday

3. How is Samuel Pepys feeling? Tick one.

- ☐ upset
- ☐ happy
- ☐ scared

4. What did Samuel Pepys wear on Tuesday? Tick one.

- ☐ a nightgown
- ☐ pyjamas
- ☐ a coat

5. What will Samuel Pepys bury in his garden? Tick one.

- ☐ his jewellery
- ☐ his money
- ☐ his wine and cheese

Questions

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ a house
- ☒ **a bakery**
- ☐ a church

2. When did Samuel Pepys hide his money? Tick one.

- ☐ Sunday
- ☒ **Monday**
- ☐ Tuesday

3. How is Samuel Pepys feeling? Tick one.

- ☐ upset
- ☐ happy
- ☒ **scared**

4. What did Samuel Pepys wear on Tuesday? Tick one.

- ☒ **a nightgown**
- ☐ pyjamas
- ☐ a coat

5. What will Samuel Pepys bury in his garden? Tick one.

- ☐ his jewellery
- ☐ his money
- ☒ **his wine and cheese**

Sunday 2nd September 1666

Dear Diary,

My maid told me early this morning that there was a big fire burning in the city. It was far away so I went back to sleep.



When I got up this morning, I saw the fire out of my window but it was still far away. My maid told me that the fire began in a bakery on Pudding Lane and 300 houses had been burnt down. She was very worried and I began to panic. The fire is spreading and I am afraid that my house will be burnt down!

Monday 3rd September 1666

Dear Diary,

The fire is still getting bigger! I am very scared because it is getting closer to my house! I hid all of my money in the cellar. I hope that it is hidden deep enough so that it will be safe from the fire.



Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

The awful fire continues! I put all of my most expensive things in a cart and took them to my friend's house this morning. I was in such a hurry that I didn't even get dressed.



I just wore my nightgown! I saw lots of people running away from the fire. I hope that this fire doesn't get any worse. If it does, I will dig a hole in the garden and bury my cheese and my bottles of wine to keep them safe.

Questions

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ Cake Street
- ☐ Pudding Lane
- ☐ Bread Pond

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ Samuel hid all of his money in the cellar.
- ☒ 1 Samuel saw the fire out of his window.
- ☐ Samuel began to panic.
- ☐ Samuel took his things to his friend's house.

3. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

Samuel Pepys hid...

to his friend's house.

Samuel Pepys took his expensive things...

all of his money in the cellar.

Samuel Pepys was afraid that...

his house would burn down.

4. Find and copy one word that shows what Samuel Pepys thinks of the fire.

5. What date did the fire start?

Answers

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ Cake Street
- ☒ **Pudding Lane**
- ☐ Bread Pond

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.
The first one has been done for you.

- 3** Samuel hid all of his money in the cellar.
- 1** Samuel saw the fire out of his window.
- 2** Samuel began to panic.
- 4** Samuel took his things to his friend's house.

3. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

Samuel Pepys hid...	to his friend's house.
Samuel Pepys took his expensive things...	all of his money in the cellar.
Samuel Pepys was afraid that...	his house would burn down.

4. Find and copy one word that shows what Samuel Pepys thinks of the fire.
awful

5. What date did the fire start?

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666.

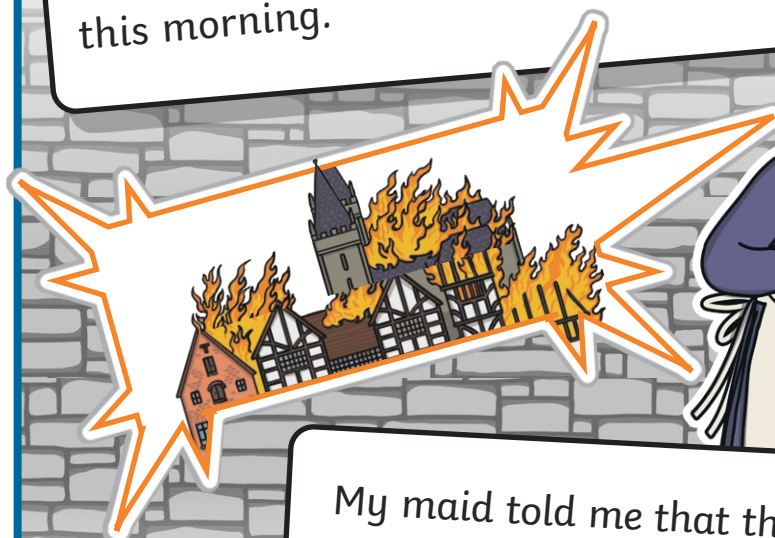
Sunday 2nd September 1666

Dear Diary,

My maid told me at 3 o'clock in the morning that there was a great fire burning in the City of London. It was far away so I went back to sleep thinking nothing of it. I saw the fire in the distance when I looked out of my window this morning.

The Diary of

Samuel Pepys

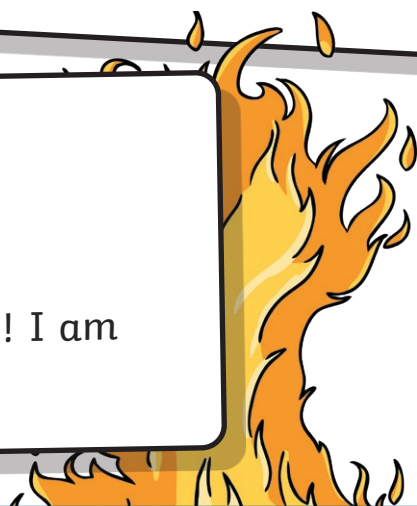


My maid told me that the fire began in a bakery on Pudding Lane and 300 houses had been burnt down. I went to see the Lord Mayor to see what was being done about the fire. He was very worried and then I began to panic. The fire is spreading and I am afraid that my property will be burnt to the ground!

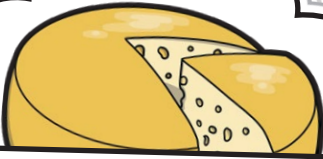
Monday 3rd September 1666

Dear Diary,

The fire is still spreading and the flames are rising! I am terrified because it is getting closer to my house!



Today, I hid all of my money in the cellar. I hope that it is hidden deep enough so that it will be safe from the fire or from anyone who tries to steal it.



Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

The terrible fire continues! I loaded up a cart with all of my valuables and took them to the house of my friend in Bethnal Green. His name was Sir Rider.

I was in such a hurry that I didn't dress. I just wore my nightgown. On the way, I saw many people running away from the fire. They all looked petrified. I do hope that this fire doesn't get any worse. If it does, I shall dig a deep pit in the garden and bury my most treasured possessions. My parmesan cheese and bottles of wine will be safe there.

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Questions

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ Cake Street
- ☐ Pudding Lane
- ☐ Bread Pond

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ Samuel hid all of his money in the cellar.
- ☐ Samuel saw the fire out of his window.
- ☐ Samuel began to panic.
- ☐ Samuel took his things to his friend's house.

3. Find and copy one word that shows how Samuel Pepys is feeling on Monday.

4. Fill in the missing word.

I was in such a hurry I didn't even get dressed. I just wore my _____.

5. Samuel Pepys writes that people running away from the fire looked petrified. What do you think the word 'petrified' might mean?

6. What do you think Samuel Pepys will do on Wednesday 5th September 1666? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

- ☐ Cake Street
☒ **Pudding Lane**
☐ Bread Pond

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- 3** Samuel hid all of his money in the cellar.
1 Samuel saw the fire out of his window.
2 Samuel began to panic.
4 Samuel took his things to his friend's house.

3. Find and copy one word that shows how Samuel Pepys is feeling on Monday.

terrified

4. Fill in the missing word.

I was in such a hurry I didn't even get dressed. I just wore my **nightgown**.

5. Samuel Pepys writes that people running away from the fire looked petrified. What do you think the word 'petrified' might mean?

Accept any plausible definition, such as: scared; terrified; frightened; upset.

6. What do you think Samuel Pepys will do on Wednesday 5th September 1666? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that he will run away because the fire is dangerous.