

Bonfire Night Vocabulary and Descriptive Writing

Learning objective: To use a range of ambitious adjectives and expanded noun phrases to describe the sights and sounds of Bonfire Night.

Read the passage carefully. Use the word bank to help you complete the questions, focusing on descriptive language and identifying key features of the event.

As the chilly November air settles over the village, the sky transforms into a giant, dark canvas. Suddenly, a dazzling display of fireworks erupts overhead. A bright, golden rocket streaks upwards, leaving a shimmering trail behind it before bursting into a cascade of vibrant sparks. Below, the bonfire is a roaring centrepiece. It is crackling loudly as the orange flames dance towards the stars. The crowd watches, mesmerised, as the night sky is illuminated by brilliant bursts of emerald green, ruby red, and sapphire blue. The air is filled with the scent of woodsmoke and the rhythmic whistling of fireworks darting through the clouds.

Word bank: dazzling · crackling · sizzling · spectacular · illuminated · vibrant · whizzing · shimmering · hissing · magnificent · rhythmic · glowing

1. Find and copy two adjectives from the passage that the author uses to describe the colours of the fireworks. (2 marks)

2. The author uses the word 'crackling' to describe the bonfire. Why is this an effective word choice? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey wants to write a poem about the fireworks. Use three words from the word bank to write a sentence describing a firework display. (3 marks)

4. What does the phrase 'dark canvas' suggest about how the night sky looks before the fireworks start? (2 marks)

5. If a family buys a box of sparklers for £4.50 and a bag of toffee apples for £3.75, how much money do they spend in total? Show your working. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw your own firework display in the night sky. Label your drawing using at least four adjectives from the word bank to describe the colours and movements of the fireworks.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing the taste and smell of Bonfire Night food (like jacket potatoes or toffee apples). Try to include at least two examples of onomatopoeia, like 'crunch' or 'sizzle'.