

The Great Fire of London

LO: To recognise adjectives, conjunctions and contractions.

Read the passage below. Underline all the adjectives, conjunctions and contractions you can find.

In 1666, London was very different to how it is now. The buildings were made of wood and were packed tightly together. It had been a long, hot summer and the wooden buildings were very dry.



In the early hours of Sunday 2nd September 1666, a fire started in the bakery on Pudding Lane because Thomas Farriner the baker, had forgotten to put out the fire he had used to bake the bread. The fire soon got out of control and before long the bakery was alight. The fire then quickly spread to nearby buildings.



They didn't have the fire service in 1666 and firefighting was very basic. Leather buckets, axes and water squirts were used to fight the flames. These were of little use against the fire because the strong wind was fanning the flames quicker than the fire could be fought.

On Sunday evening, people started to pull down wooden buildings to try and stop the hot fire from spreading. On Monday, the fire was raging through the city. People weren't safe so they started to move their families and belongings using boats on the filthy river. On Tuesday the fire destroyed the huge St Paul's Cathedral. On Wednesday the fire began to get smaller and the wind wasn't as strong. It was Thursday by the time the fire had been stopped.

Much of London had been destroyed by the fire and had to be rebuilt. The new buildings were made of brick and were built further apart to try to stop any future fire from spreading so far.

