

Worksheet 1

Read through the powerpoint, "Great Fire of London Eyewitness accounts" before answering the comprehension questions.

Here is a copy of the diary extract.

2nd September 1666

So I made myself ready presently, and walked to the Tower...and there I did see the houses at the end of the bridge all on fire.

So down [I went], with my heart full of trouble, to the Lieutenant of the Tower, who tells me that it began this morning in the King's baker's house in Pudding Lane, and that it hath burned St. Magnus's Church and most part of Fish Street already. So I rode down to the waterside...

Everybody is trying to move their goods or fling them into the river or bring them onto boats. Poor people stay in their houses until the fire touches them. Then they run into the boats.

I saw the fire rage every way, and nobody trying to quench it, but instead trying to save their goods. The wind mighty high.

Comprehension questions

1. Where did Samuel Pepys first see the houses on fire on 2nd September?

2. Which building has the fire already burned?

3. Copy the words from the 2nd paragraph that show Samuel Pepys was worried.

4. Some words from the diary are old fashioned. Find and **copy the word** that is used instead of “has”.

5. Find the definition of “quench”.

Replace “quench” with a different word to make the following sentence make sense.

I saw the fire rage every way, and nobody trying

to _____ it. . .

6. From the 3rd and 4th paragraphs, how do you think the people Samuel Pepys is writing about are feeling?

Think of three adjectives.
