

# Comparing texts – Gunpowder plot

## Text 3: What was the Gunpowder Plot?



This document one of a set of 4 PDF files that form the **Comparing texts – gunpowder plot** Level 2 Functional English reading resource contributed by Sarah Holmes. Visit the download page for this resource on [www.skillsworkshop.org](http://www.skillsworkshop.org) to find the remaining PDF files.

### **Britain's first terrorists**

An article from the Sun newspaper

PDF Text 1

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4671842/gunpowder-plot-1605-robert-catesby-guy-fawkes-houses-parliament/>

### **Gunpowder Plot**

A Wikipedia item

PDF Text 2

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunpowder\\_Plot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunpowder_Plot)

### **What was the Gunpowder Plot?**

PDF Text 3 (this document)

Pages from Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot (Why do we remember), primary school history series.

First published in Great Britain in 2016 by The Watts Publishing Group. Produced for Franklin Watts by White-Thompson Publishing Ltd [www.wtpub.co.uk](http://www.wtpub.co.uk)

### **Working with multiple texts**

PDF 4

**L2 Functional English question paper** – 10 questions based on Texts 1-3. Questions cover:

- form, purpose & audience
- comparing content
- tone & register
- positive bias
- facts & opinions
- layout features

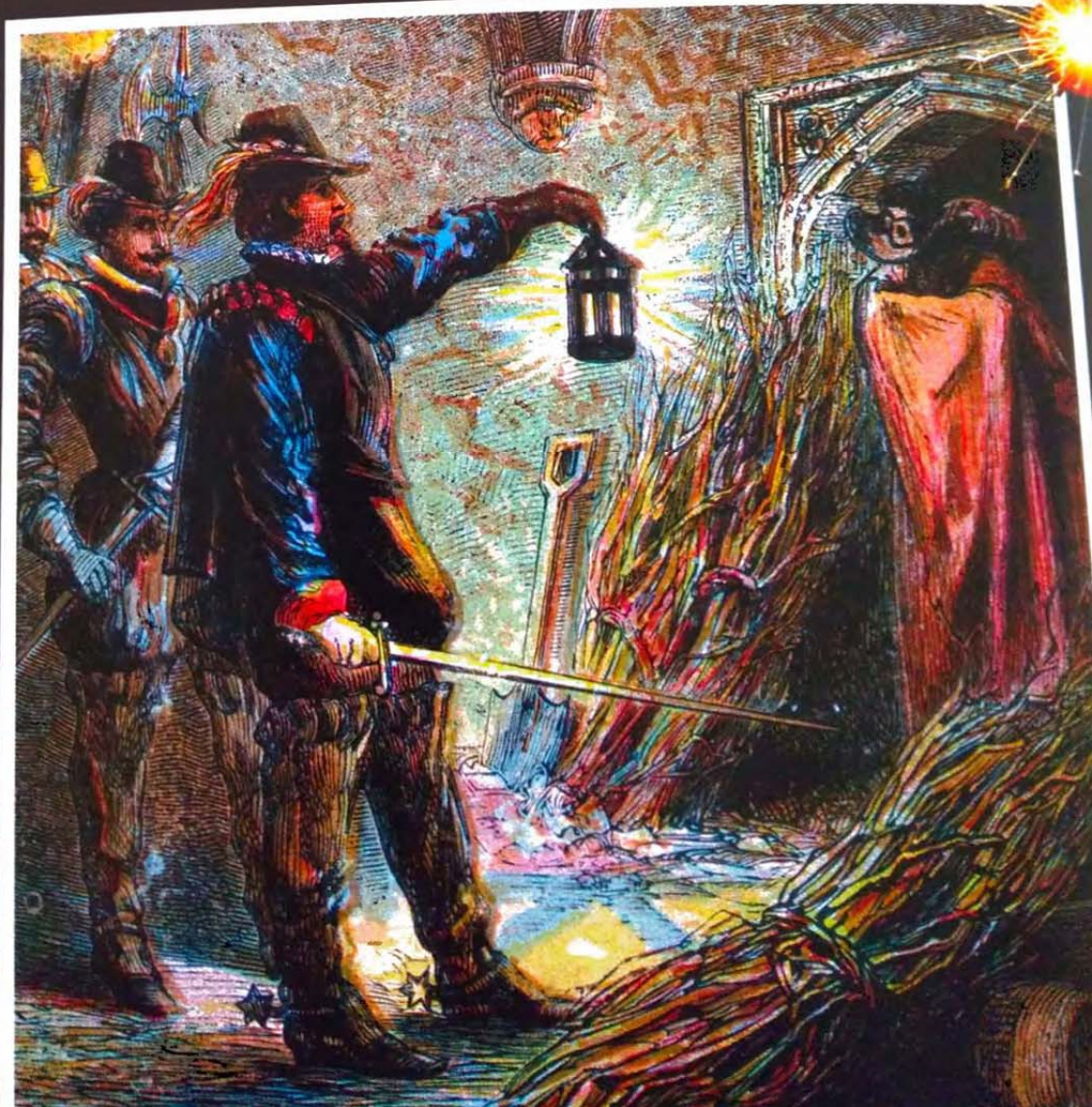


# WHAT WAS THE GUNPOWDER PLOT?

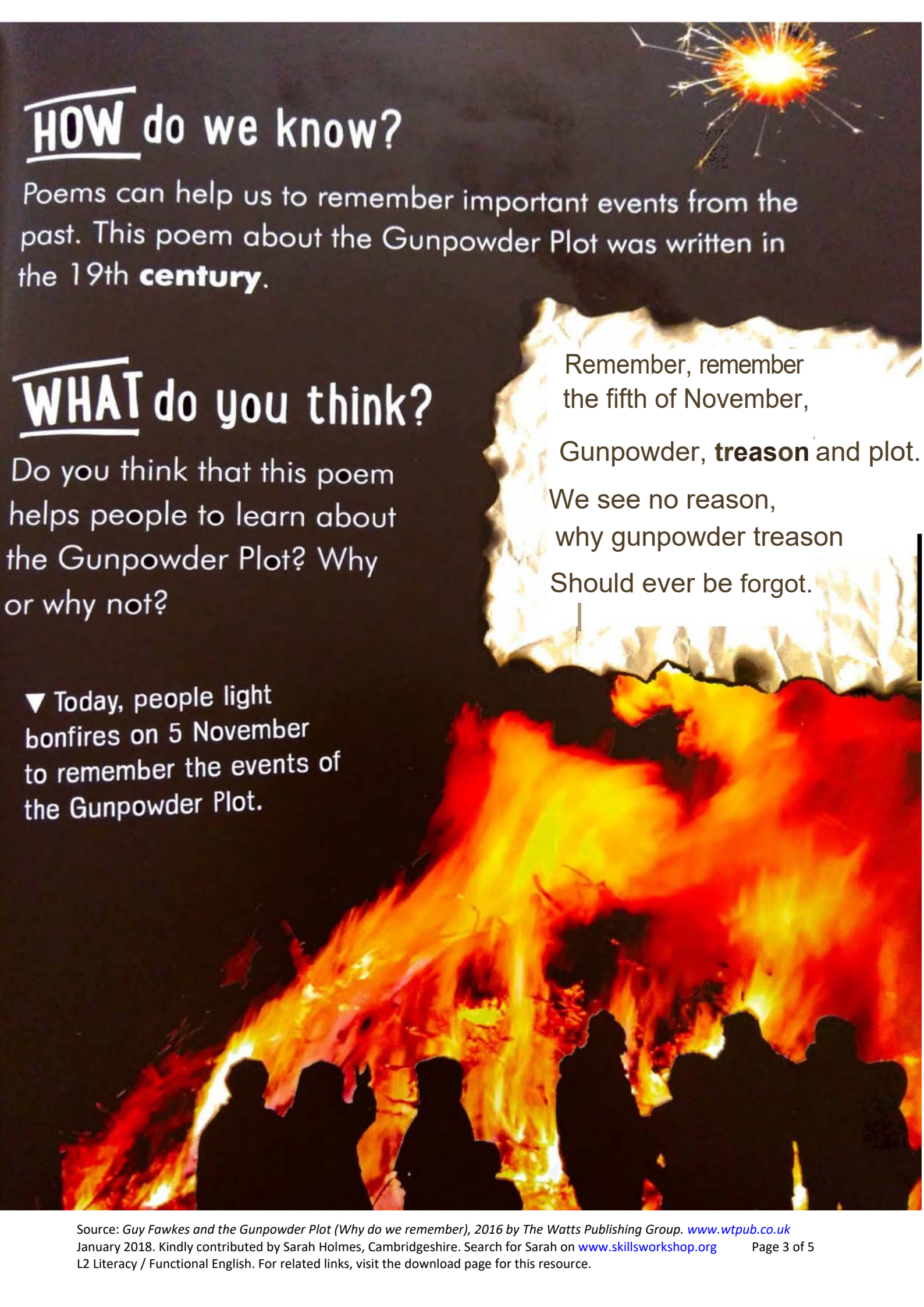
In 1605, a group of **Catholic** men planned to kill the **Protestant** king of England, King James I (1566–1625), by blowing up the **Houses of Parliament** with **gunpowder**.

They knew the king would be in Parliament on 5 November, so they chose that day for the explosion. This plan is known as the Gunpowder Plot.

► On the night of 4 November, two men found a member of the plot with gunpowder under the Houses of Parliament.







## HOW do we know?

Poems can help us to remember important events from the past. This poem about the Gunpowder Plot was written in the 19th **century**.

## WHAT do you think?

Do you think that this poem helps people to learn about the Gunpowder Plot? Why or why not?

▼ Today, people light bonfires on 5 November to remember the events of the Gunpowder Plot.

Remember, remember  
the fifth of November,  
Gunpowder, **treason** and plot.  
We see no reason,  
why gunpowder treason  
Should ever be forgot.

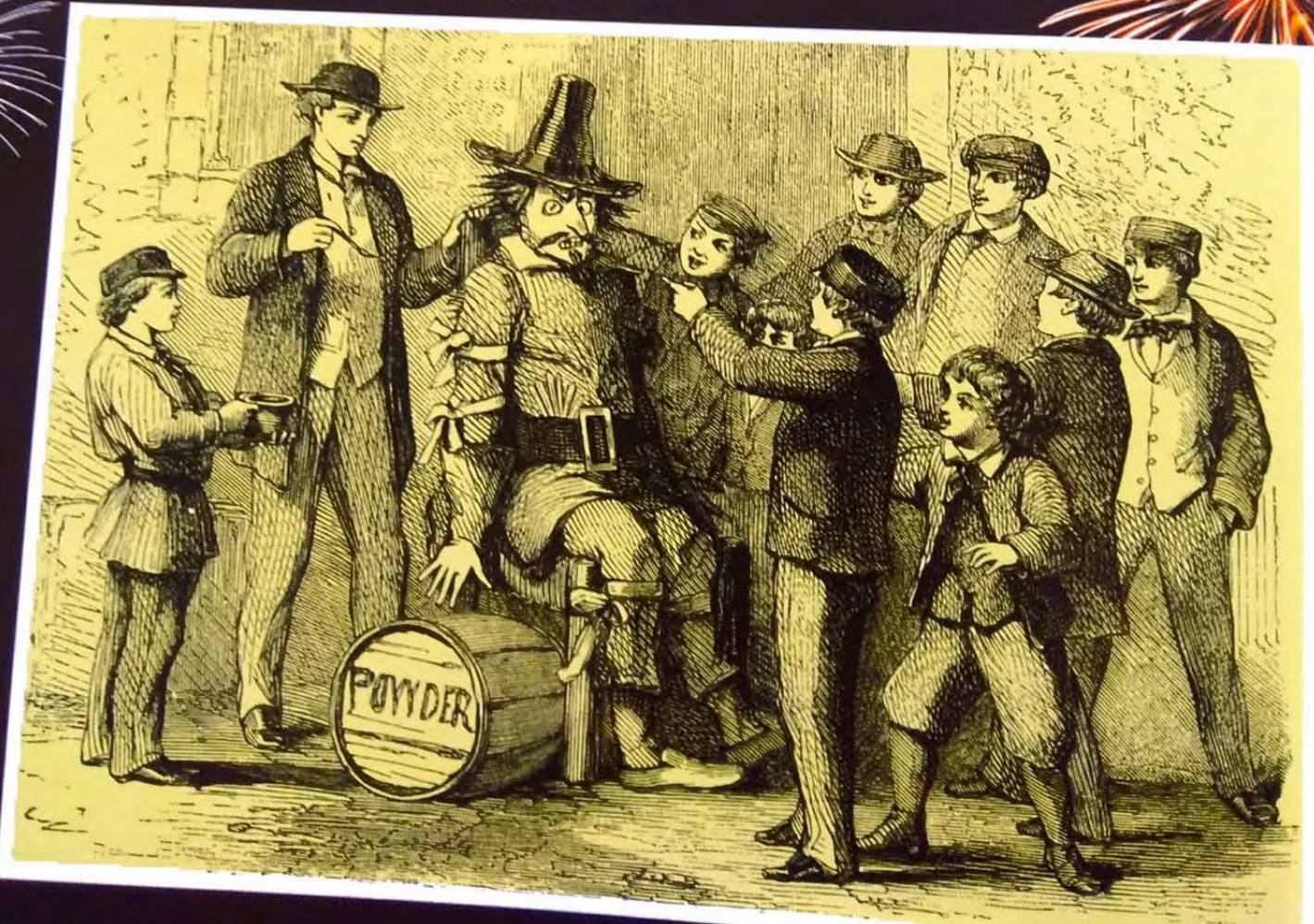


# REMEMBER. REMEMBER

Up until 1859, Protestant churches held services every year on 5 November to remember the plot and celebrate its failure.

From the late 19th century, children made models of Guy Fawkes out of old clothes. They would take them out on to the streets and ask for money by shouting 'a penny for the Guy'. Later, the model would be burned on a bonfire.

▼ These boys have added a barrel of 'gunpowder' to their Guy (model of Guy Fawkes).





Today, people across the UK celebrate 5 November with firework displays and bonfires. For this reason, 5 November is often known as Bonfire Night.

## HOW do we know?

You can visit a Bonfire Night celebration in your local area.



◀ This huge model of Guy Fawkes will be burnt on a bonfire as part of the Bonfire Night celebrations in the town of Lewes.

## WHAT do you think?

Why will you remember the story of the Gunpowder Plot?

