

The Diary of Samuel Pepys

Sunday 2nd September 1666



Dear Diary,

I woke up this morning and I saw a big fire out of my window. It began in a bakery and 300 houses have been burned down. I began to panic. The fire is spreading and I think that my house will burn down!

Monday 3rd September 1666

Dear Diary,

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



Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

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



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
- ☐ normal clothes

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

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



Answers

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
- ☐ normal clothes

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

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



The Diary of Samuel Pepys

Sunday 2nd September 1666



Dear Diary,

My maid, Jane, called up to me early this morning to tell me 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. Jane came to tell me the fire began in a bakery on Pudding Lane and 300 houses had been burned down. She was very worried and I began to panic. The fire is spreading and I am afraid that my house will be burned 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! 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.



Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

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

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

	Samuel hides all of his money in the cellar.
1	Samuel sees the fire out of his window.
	Samuel begins to panic.
	Samuel takes his things to his friend's house.

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

5. What do you think Samuel Pepys will do on Wednesday 5th
September 1666?

Answers

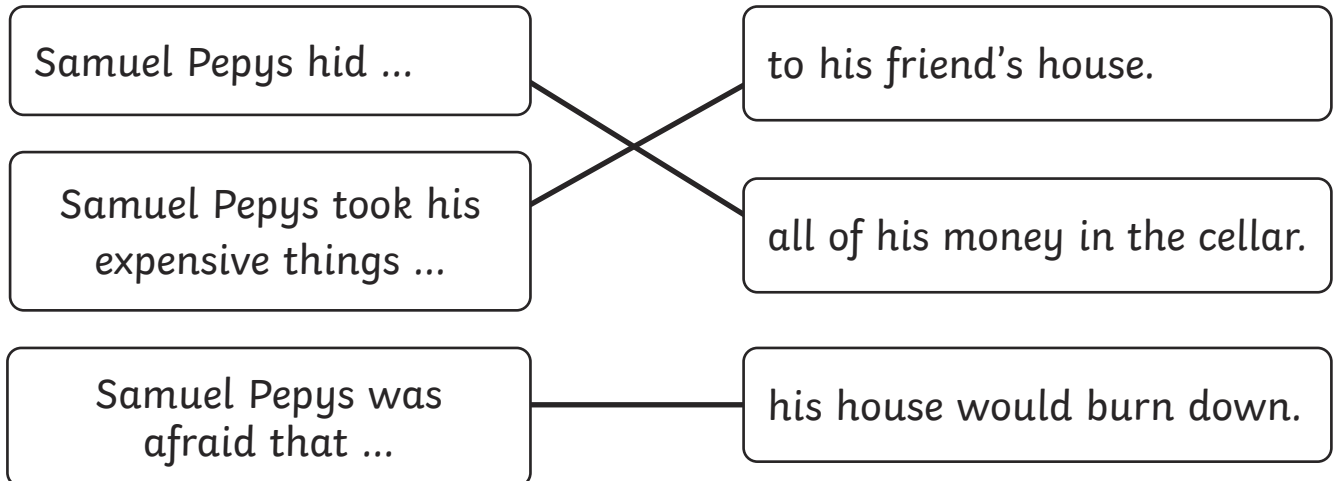
1. Where did the fire begin? Tick one.

☐ Cake Street

☒ **Pudding Lane**

☐ Bread Pond

2. Draw three lines and complete each sentence.



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

3	Samuel hides all of his money in the cellar.
1	Samuel sees the fire out of his window.
2	Samuel begins to panic.
4	Samuel takes his things to his friend's house.

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

5. What do you think Samuel Pepys will do on Wednesday 5th September 1666?

Accept any plausible answer, e.g. I think that he will run away from the fire.

The Diary of Samuel Pepys

Dear Diary,

Sunday 2nd September 1666

My maid, Jane, called up to me at 3 o'clock in the morning to tell me 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. Jane came to tell me the fire began in a bakery on Pudding Lane and 300 houses had been burned 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 burned to the ground!

Dear Diary,

Monday 3rd September 1666

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.

Dear Diary,

Tuesday 4th September 1666

The terrible fire continues! At 4 o'clock this morning, I loaded up a cart with all of my valuables and took them to the house of my friend, Sir Rider, in Bethnal Green. 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.



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 hides all of his money in the cellar.
	Samuel sees the fire out of his window.
	Samuel begins to panic.
	Samuel takes 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 hides all of his money in the cellar.
1	Samuel sees the fire out of his window.
2	Samuel begins to panic.
4	Samuel takes 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.