

Hello Kusama and Van Gogh,  
Over the **next two weeks** we are going to be learning all about The Great Fire of London, and we will use the above book to help us! We are going to use our knowledge about London to help us compare today with London in 1666. Towards the end of the week, we are going to interview Thomas Farriner, to find out a bit more about how the fire started.

We hope you enjoy!  
Miss Wetz and Miss Wilson

### Lesson 1 – London in 1666 and London today

Read the first section of the book, The City of London (pages 4-7). 1666 was 354 years ago! London today is very different to how it used to be then. Look at pictures of contemporary London and London in 1666. Discuss with a family member how London then is different to modern London. Use this video link to help you take a look at what London was like in 1666.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPY-hr-8-M0>

#### Task

Write some sentences to describe **London in 1666** and **London now**. You could use different colours for the past and present or you can write your sentences down in a chart like this (there is a template on page 6).

London in 1666	London today
The houses were made of wood.	Houses today are made of concrete, brick, glass and other materials.
The city was dirty and there were no sewer systems to keep the city clean.	In London today, there are sewer systems and rubbish is collected and taken away.

## Lesson 2 – Contrasting conjunctions

Today, we are going to use all of the sentences that we wrote yesterday to show the differences between London in 1666 and London today.



### Task

Write **5-6 sentences** comparing London today with London in 1666. Use your ideas from yesterday and **contrasting conjunctions** to help you to write your sentences.

### Conjunctions

but	although	whereas	while
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### For example:

*In 1666 buildings were made of wood, **but** now they are made of concrete, glass and other materials.*

*In 1666, London was very dirty, **whereas** today there are sewer systems that keep London's streets clean.*

## Lesson 3 – Advice poster

Read to the end of page 9. What facts do we know about London in the summer of 1666? Look at the text from pages 8 and 9 and highlight important words and phrases.

### Miss Wetz wrote these phrases down:

- Especially hot summer
- Little rainfall
- No electricity
- Open fires and flames
- Crowded city

### Task

We are going to think about how the citizens of London in 1666 could have kept safe. The King at the time was King Charles II and you are going to put yourself in his shoes and design a poster with advice for how the citizens could stay safe. As he was in charge, he would have used **commands**.



**What is a command?**

A **command** is a type of sentence which instructs or orders an action to take place.

Often a command will begin with an imperative verb. Imperative verbs are also called 'bossy verbs', as they are used to order someone to do something.

For example, '*Close the door*' is a command sentence. In this example, 'close' is the imperative verb.

We are also going to use the words: **when, before, because** and **if** to give the citizens advice.

**Here is a word bank to help you:**

Sentence starters	Nouns	Imperative Verbs
Always...	candles	tidy
Never...	smoke	close
Sometimes...	fire	put out
You must not...	cooking	blow out
Do not...	ash	clean
You should...		check
You should not...		

Here is an example:



## CITIZENS OF LONDON

Blow out candles **when** you leave the room.

**Before** bed, make sure there is no hot ash lying around.

### Lesson 4 – Question Time!

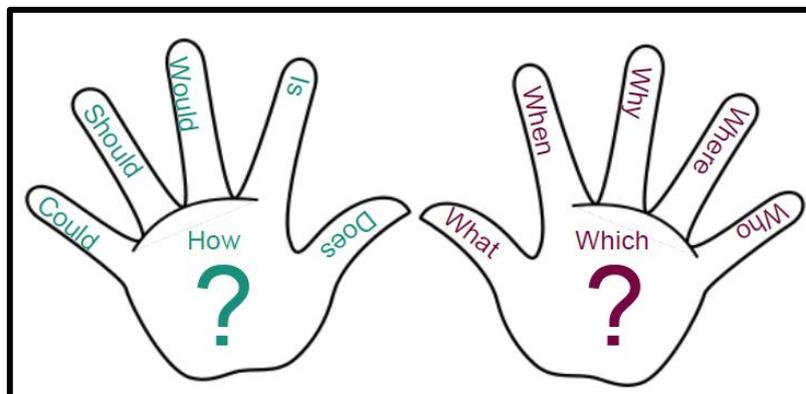
Read on to page 16. Retell to an adult what has happened so far in the book. Discuss what you find interesting / puzzling and what you would like to know more about.



#### Task

Imagine Thomas Farriner could travel in time and is coming to visit. What questions would you want to ask him about what happened? Think carefully about your questions and try to make sure that they are **open-ended** so that you can gather as much information as possible.

Use **Talk to the Hand** to generate **5-10 questions** that you could ask.



**Challenge:** Write the answers to your questions in the role of Thomas Farriner

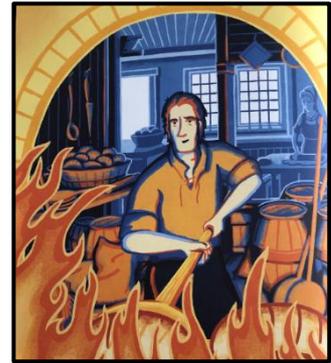
**Example:**

**What** day did the fire start?

It started on the night of Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 1666.

**How** did the fire start?

The stone oven in my bakery was lit every morning and it burned throughout the day. At night, we beat the flames down to ashes, but on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September, it seems that no one made sure that the fire was properly put out and the fire spread.



**Lesson 1 – Comparison chart**

London in 1666	London today
 <p>A detailed black and white engraving of a street scene in London from 1666. The buildings are multi-story, made of brick and stone, with many windows and a prominent bay window on the left. People are walking on the street, and a horse-drawn carriage is visible. The scene depicts a narrow, busy street in a historical setting.</p>	 <p>A color photograph of the modern London skyline. The image shows a dense cluster of skyscrapers and modern buildings, including the distinctive, bullet-shaped Gherkin building. The sky is clear and blue, and there are green trees in the foreground.</p>