

The Gunpowder Plot

Lesson 1

What do we know about bonfire night?



Every year on the 5th November, we light bonfires and put a model of Guy Fawkes on top. We light fireworks and sparklers and celebrate the failure of the Gunpowder Plot.



How do you celebrate on bonfire night?

The Gunpowder Plot

Lesson 2

Why do we remember the 5th
November?

King James I



In 1605, King James I was the King of England. But some people did not like him - under his rule, England was a Protestant country and some people were Catholic.

Guy Fawkes



A group of Catholic men plotted to blow up the Houses of Parliament with the King and his government inside.



They decided to use gunpowder to cause a huge explosion underneath the King's chair.



The Houses of Parliament

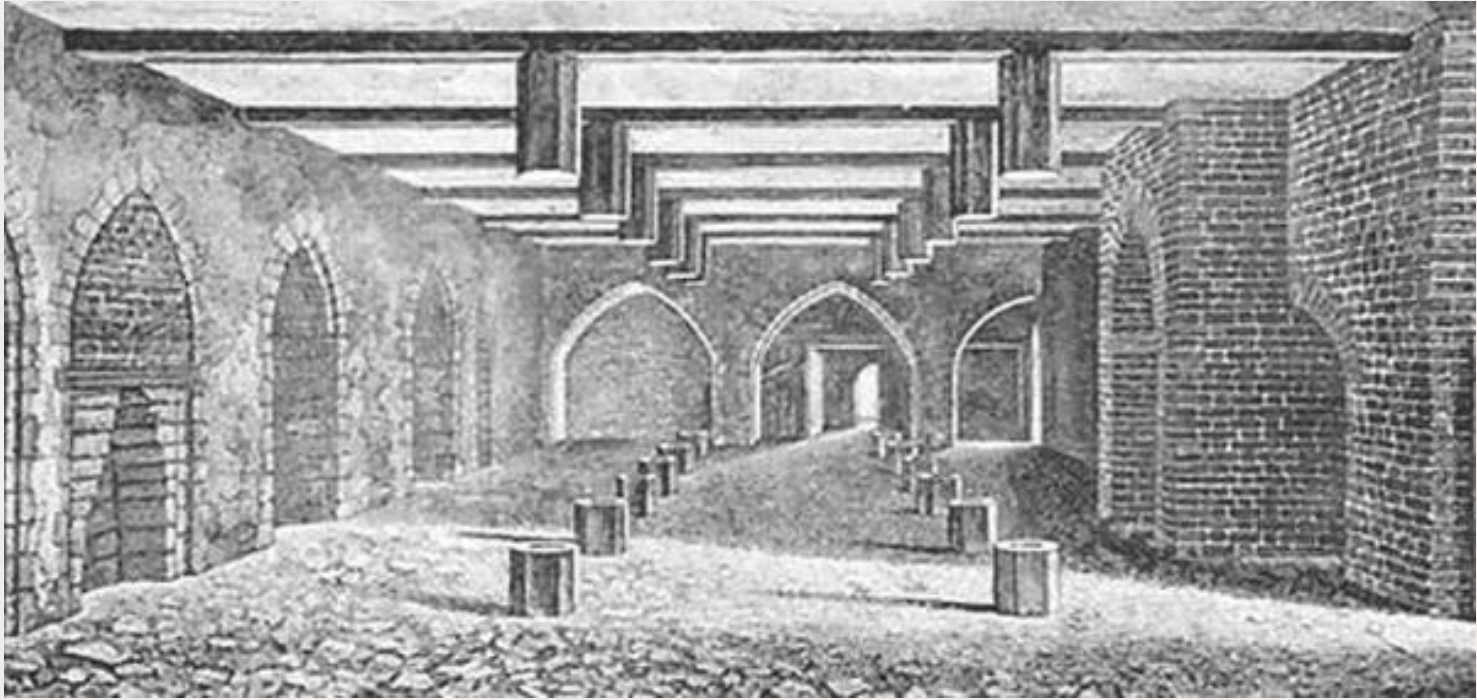


Thirty six barrels of gunpowder were put in the cellars of the Houses of Parliament. Guy Fawkes' job was to light the gunpowder on 5th November 1605.

my lord out of the .cove i beare ~~out~~ To some of youere friendz
i haue a caer of youer preseruation Therfor i would
advyse youe as youe tender youer Lyf To deuyse some
excuse to shift of youer attendance at this parliament
for god and man haue concurred To punishe the wickednes
of this tyme and thinke not slighte of this aduertisement
but rether youe self into youre contriuyteare youe
may expect the event In saffi for howe theyeare be no
apparance of annisur yet i saye they shall receyue a terrible
blow This parliament and yet they shall not scie who
hurts them This counceyl is not to be continued because
it maye do youe good and can do youe no harme for the
dangere is passed as soon as youe haue burnt the letter
and i hope god will giue youe the grace to make good
use of it To whose holy protection i commend youe

To the ryght honorable
The Lord monteagle

The plan did not work. A warning letter was sent to Lord Monteagle, who would be in parliament on 5th November, telling him about the plot. He alerted the king.



The barrels of gunpowder were found by the King's guards. Guy Fawkes and his friends were arrested for trying to kill the King.



Guy Fawkes was put in the Tower of London and tortured until he confessed to trying to blow up the Houses of Parliament, the King and his government. He was then executed.

The King decided that on the 5th of November every year from that day we would remember the Gunpowder Plot and how Guy Fawkes' plan failed.



The Gunpowder Plot

Lesson 3

What was life like in 1605?

my lord out of the .cove i beare ~~out~~ To some of youere friendz
i haue acaer of youer preseruation Therfor i would
advyse youe as youe tender youer Lyf To demys some
excuse to shift of youer attendance at this parliament
for god and man ha the concurred To punishe the wickednes
of this tyme and thinke not slighte of this aduertisement
but rether youe self into youre contri vlyeare youe
may expect the event In saffi for Thowye there be no
apparance of anni stir yet i saye they shall receyue a terrible
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and i hope god will giue youe the grace to make good
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The letter that was sent to Lord Monteagle.



Wooden framed houses with thatched roofs.



Guy Fawkes' lantern, found in the cellar.



Look at the clothes they wore.

The Gunpowder Plot

Lesson 4

Why did they want to blow up
Parliament?

The background of the slide features a repeating pattern of wooden barrels. The barrels are arranged in rows, with some in the foreground appearing more detailed and others fading into the background. They have a light brown wood grain and dark metal bands.

<https://learning.parliament.uk/resources/guy-fawkes-and-bonfire-night-video/>

Watch this video from 3 minutes to 4:15 minutes.
Think about why the plotters wanted to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

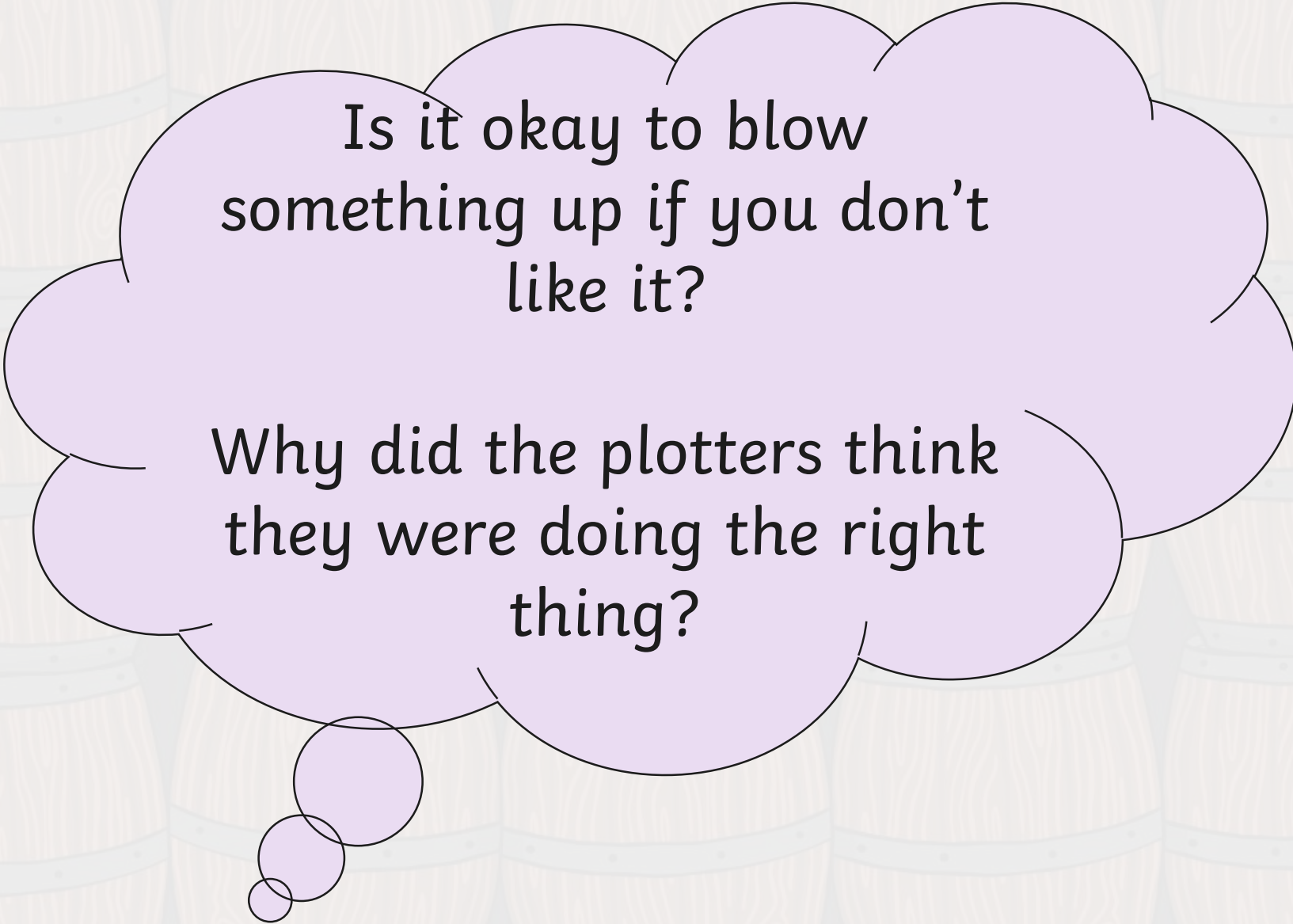


Guy Fawkes and the other plotters were Catholic. They were angry about the way they were treated in Protestant England. They wanted a King and a government who wouldn't punish them for their religious beliefs.

We have to finish this persecution forever so that all Catholics can live in peace.

The king, the government, the lords and everyone who denies our freedom – we have to kill them all.





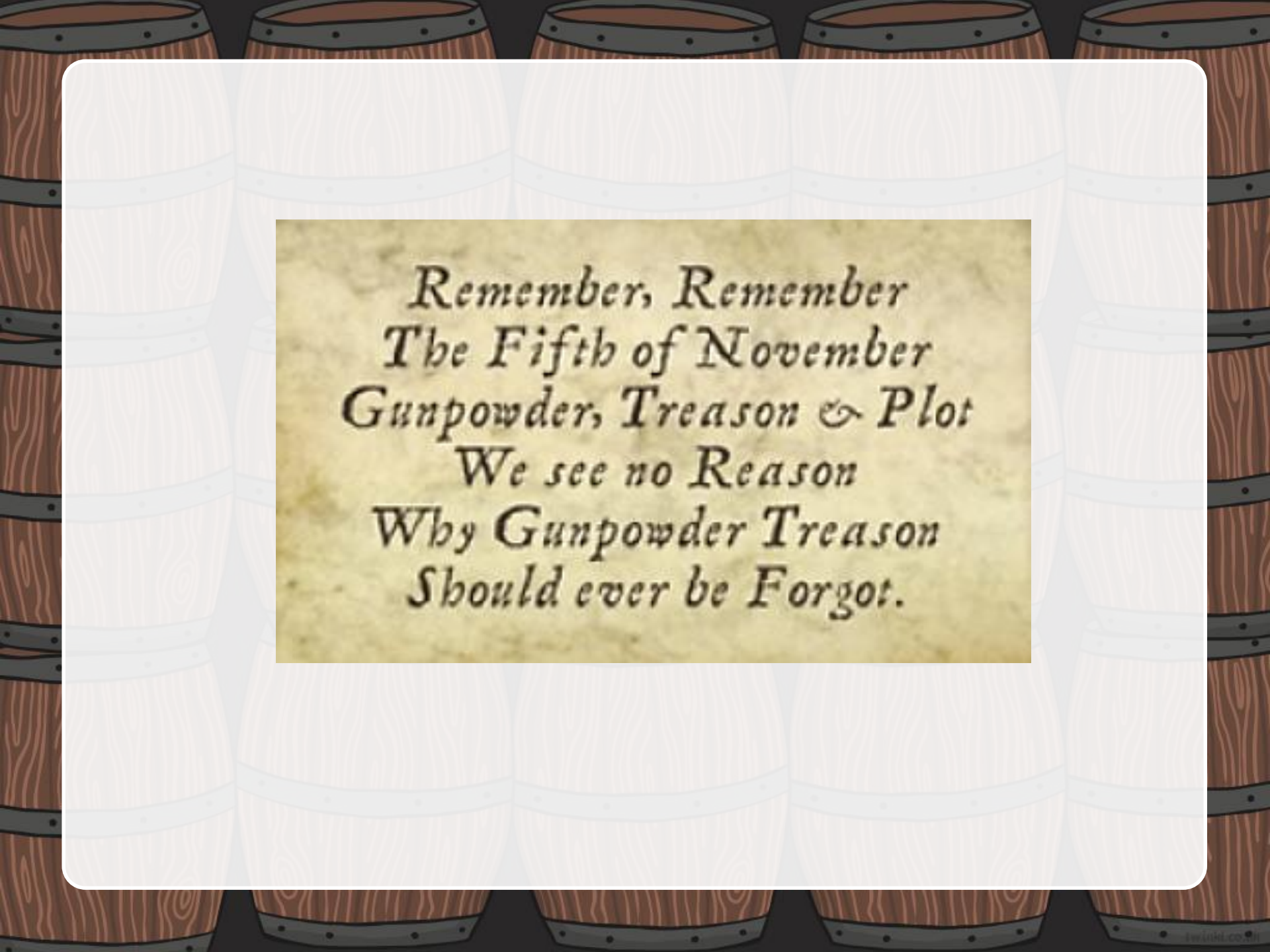
Is it okay to blow
something up if you don't
like it?

Why did the plotters think
they were doing the right
thing?

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Lesson 5


Is it right to burn Guys on
bonfire night?



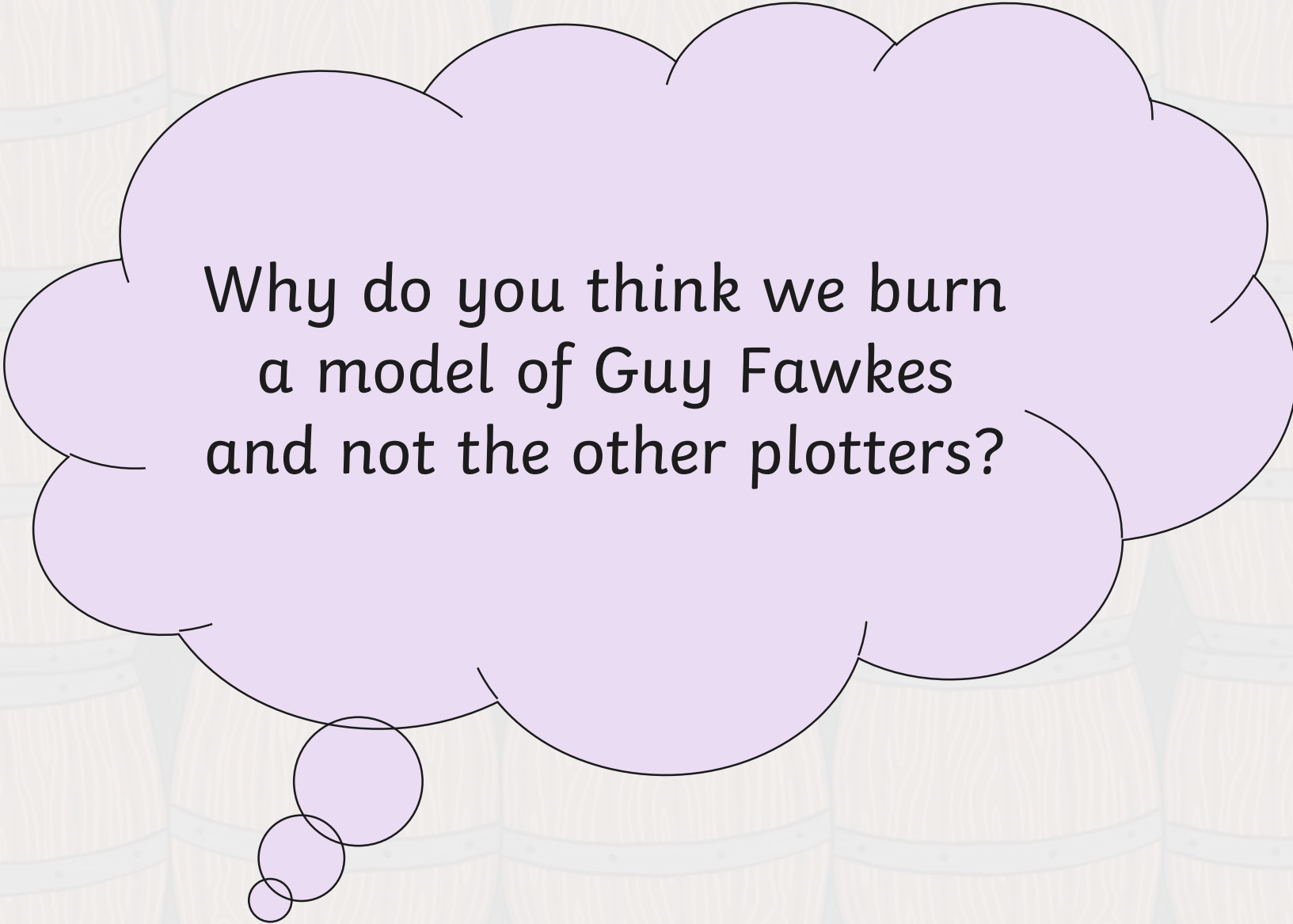
*Remember, Remember
The Fifth of November
Gunpowder, Treason & Plot
We see no Reason
Why Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be Forgot.*



Every year on the 5th November, we light bonfires and put a model of Guy Fawkes on top.



Do you think we should
burn a Guy on bonfire
night?



Why do you think we burn
a model of Guy Fawkes
and not the other plotters?

The Gunpowder Plot

Lesson 6

Should the plotters have tried to
blow up the Houses of
Parliament?

Your task

Write a newspaper report about the gunpowder plot, either for or against what the plotters did.

THE LONDON TIMES

6th November 1605

**EVIL PLOTTER
ARRESTED FOR
TREASON**

[Large empty box for image]

[Handwriting practice lines]

[illegible]

Which headline will you
choose?

**BRAVE CATHOLIC
PLOTTER ARRESTED
FOR TREASON**

**EVIL PLOTTER
ARRESTED FOR
TREASON**