

Our History Learning Journey

Key vocabulary:

Fire, roads, narrow, wood, buckets, fire Safety, The River Thames, burning, escaping, Tower of London, Samuel Pepys, King Charles II, The Monument, smoke, baker, Pudding Lane, London, past, present, investigate and witness

To ask and answer questions

Compare how London has changed

Describe changes within living memory

Use secondary sources to find information

Identify what I have learnt

Thursday 29th January 2026



LQ: Can I describe changes within living memory?

Steps to Success



All – I know there were major fires in London (GFOL, 1666 and Grenfell, 2017)

Most – I can discuss the similarities and differences between GFOL and Grenfell.

Some – I can explain some changes from 1666 to 2017.



Star Words



London



fire



similar



Grenfell Tower



great



different



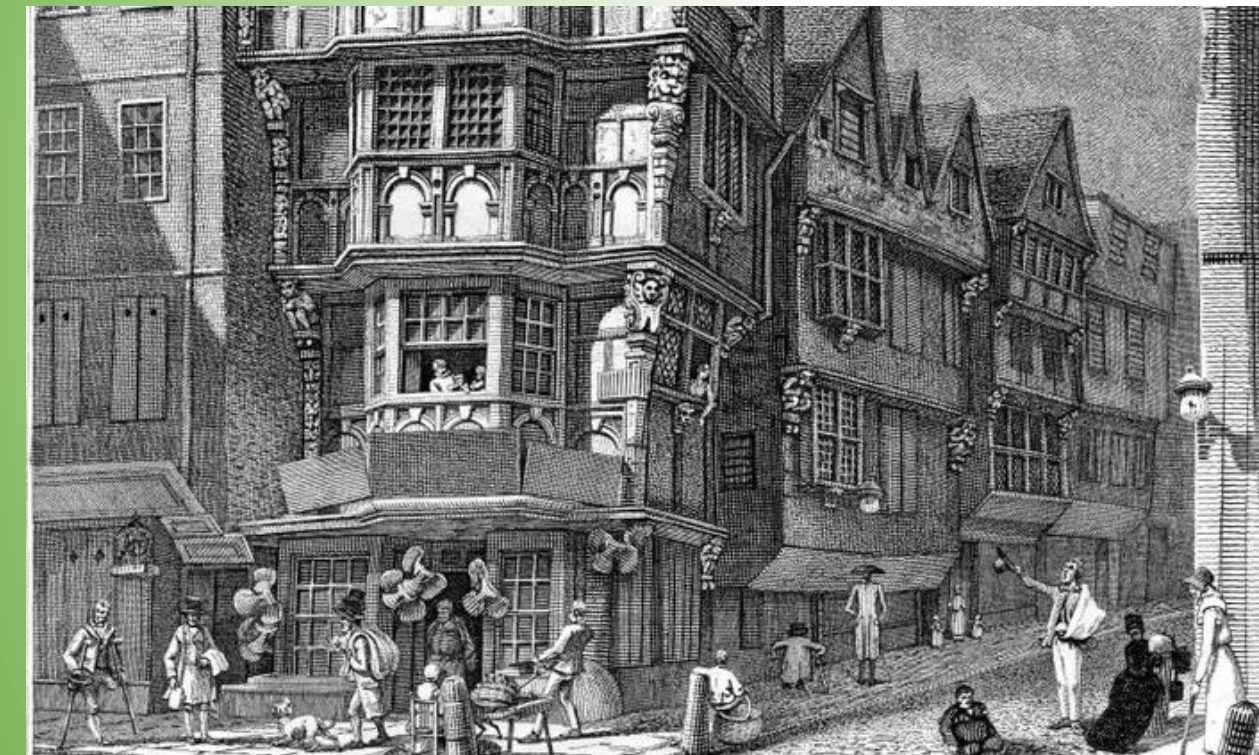
Thursday 29th January 2026

LQ: Can I compare how London has changed?

Quiz:

Look at the pictures.

TPs: Are these London houses in the past or present? How do you know?



Wooden houses, narrow streets, tiny windows, houses built really close to each other.

Thursday 29th January 2026

LQ: Can I compare how London has changed?

Quiz:

Look at the pictures.

TPs: Are these London houses in the past or present? How do you know?



Brick houses, wide streets, houses are not built close to each other, modern designs and big windows.

Today we will be comparing changes between the Great Fire of London in 1666 and the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017.

TPs: What are the similarities and differences between the two fires?



1666

The Great Fire of London



2017

The Grenfell Tower Fire in London

The Great Fire of London (1666)

- The Great Fire of London started on **Sunday 2nd September 1666** in **Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane**
- The fire started from a spark of fire which **blazed the whole city** due to the **poor materials** the buildings were made from
- The fire destroyed more than **13,000 houses**
- They struggled to put out the fire using water from the **River Thames, leather buckets, fire hooks and water squirts**
- King Charles II ordered the houses that were in the fire's way, to be pulled down and used gunpowder to **blow them up**
- The fire lasted for **four days**
- **Samuel Pepys** wrote about what happened in his diary



TPs- What changes have occurred to prevent fires after this fire?

Grenfell Fire (2017)

- The Grenfell fire in West London started on **Wednesday 4th June 2017**, in a **24-storey block of flats**
- The fire started from a flat that had a **faulty fridge-freezer** which caused the blaze
- The rapid spread was due to the material used for outside of the building. The material was **highly flammable**
- The fire **destroyed 151 homes** in the tower and the surrounding area
- The smoke alarm went off and the fire brigade were called to put the fire out. 250 fire fighters used equipment such as hoses, spray and rope to save the people and their homes
- The fire lasted **1 day**



TPs- Why do you think this fire burnt for less time compared to the Great Fire of London?

Discussion

TPs: What are similarities and differences between the two fires?

Think about:

The materials that were used.

The size of the streets (narrow/wide)

What caused the fires.

The equipment that put the fires out.

The length of time the fires burnt.

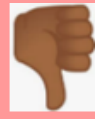
Whether the fire spread.

Whether the victims got shelter.



Self Assessment

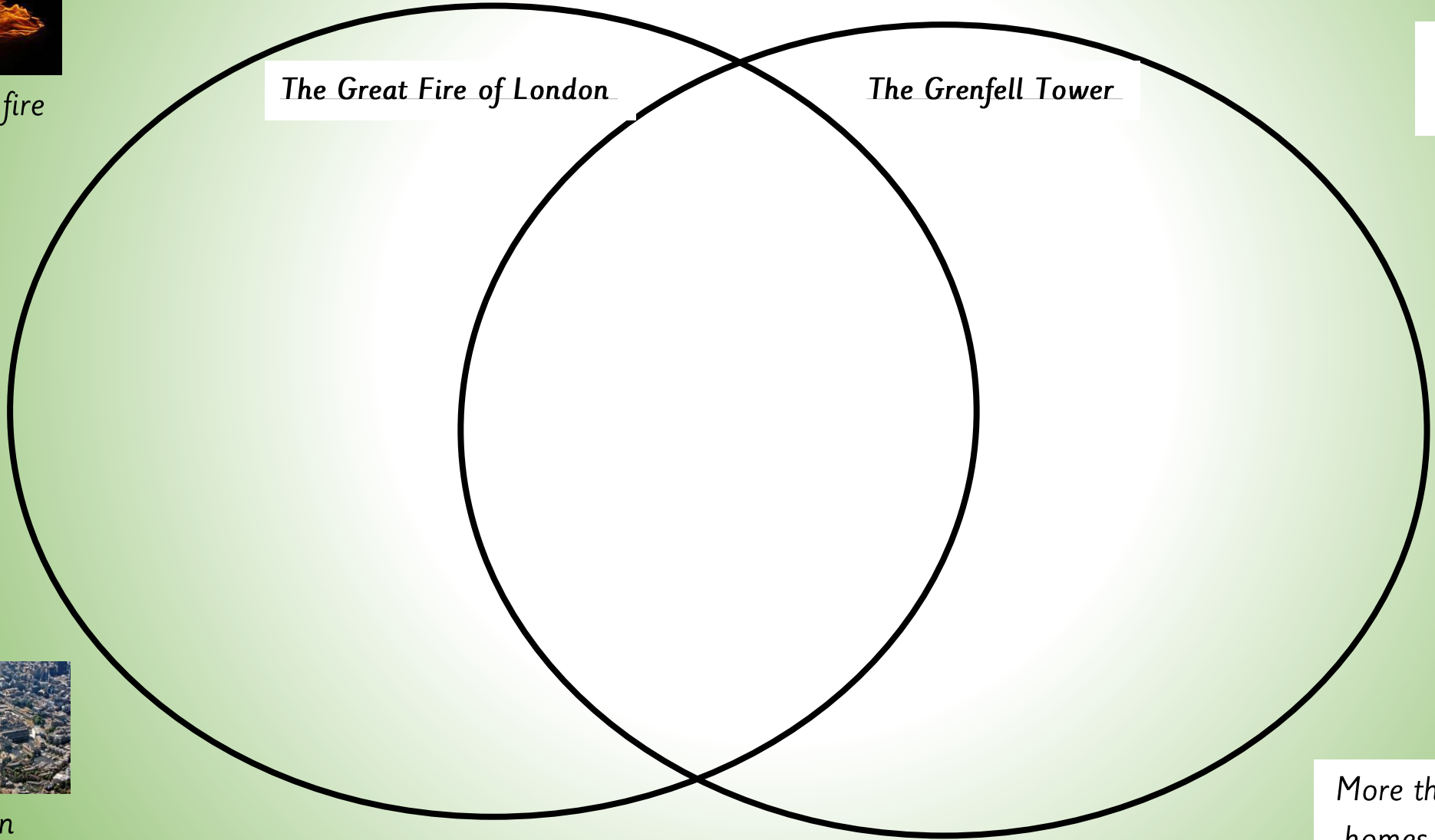
Do you understand the similarities and differences between the fires?



Let's sort the similarities and differences between the two fires.



houses on fire



Houses made out of wood

Houses made out of bricks



where people lived

151 homes destroyed



London

More than 13,000 homes destroyed

TASK

Sort the similarities and differences between the two fires in your books. Write the headings and draw a line down the centre.

CT to write headings for SEN EAL if needed.

The Great Fire of London

The Grenfell Tower



Firemen put the fire out



houses on fire



wooden houses



brick houses



London



Leather buckets and water squirts put the fire out



where people lived

More than 13,000 homes destroyed

151 homes destroyed

Self Assessment
 Do you understand what to do?
