

The Great Fire of London

The old city of London was very different from today's city. It had narrow, crooked streets and most of the buildings were made of wood. It was a dirty and dangerous city, too. However, in 1666 everything changed.



a) The assistant, however, fell asleep, and when he woke up at about two o'clock in the morning, the bakery was on fire. From the bakery the fire spread to the next house and then the next. A strong wind was blowing from the river. After a hot, dry summer the buildings caught fire very easily, and the fire spread quickly.

b) Today near London Bridge you can see the Monument to the Great Fire of London. It's thirty-three metres high, because it's thirty-three metres from the bakery in Pudding Lane where the fire started.

c) In the evening of 2 September, 1666, Thomas Farynor, a baker, was in his bakery in Pudding Lane near London Bridge. He was making some bread. He put the loaves of bread into the oven and then he went to bed, while his assistant looked after them.

d) The fire burned for four days and it destroyed most of the city. Amazingly, only six people died, but almost everyone lost their home. The people of London had to build a new city.

e) Soon several streets were on fire. Some people tried to save their houses, but it was no good. The fire was too strong, so they grabbed their children, money and clothes and they ran. Everyone tried to escape from the fire.

f) They decided to build a better, more modern city with wide, straight streets. It was cleaner and safer, too. The people didn't want another fire, so all the buildings were made of bricks or stone. Sir Christopher Wren built a new St Paul's Cathedral. Everyone agreed that it was more beautiful than the old cathedral.

1. **Read the paragraphs and number them in correct order.**
(Přečtěte si odstavce a očísľujte je ve správném pořadí.)



2. Correct the following sentences: (Opravte následující věty):

❖ Most of the buildings in the old city of London were made of stone.

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❖ The fire started in spring 1666, after very cold winter.

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❖ Thomas Farynor was making some pudding in his bakery in Bread Lane.

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❖ Thomas's wife fell asleep and didn't look after the oven.

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❖ The fire lasted six days, four people died. Some people lost their home.

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❖ The new St Paul's Cathedral wasn't as beautiful as the old one.

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3. Find the opposites of these words in the text: (Najděte v textu slova opačná k těmto slovům:)

wide

wet

straight

same

late

safe

slowly

worse