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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 30/10/13

Remember Remember the Fifth of November!

Today, we are going to talk about *Guy Fawkes' Night or Bonfire Night*. The event is held every year in the United Kingdom on the evening of the fifth of November.

The annual commemoration is to remind us of the events of the 5th November 1605 when Guy Fawkes', who was a Catholic, was caught and arrested in the cellars of the Houses of Parliament while guarding the gunpowder that was to be used to blow it up.

Guy Fawkes' was a member of 'The Gunpowder Plot'. The group's aim was to kill King James I, who was a Protestant, and replace him with a Catholic King. In those days Catholics in the United Kingdom had to practise their religion in secret. When he became King, James I had introduced more laws against Catholics; many of whom thought the government were treating them unfairly.

To celebrate King James I surviving the plot people lit bonfires around London. Months later saw the introduction of the 'Observance of the 5th November Act', which enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure.

After a few decades the 'Gunpowder Treason Day', as it was known, also became a focus for anti-Catholic sentiment. Increasingly raucous celebrations saw folk begin to burn effigies of popular figures of the time; including the Pope and Guy Fawkes'.

Towards the end of the 18th century children began begging for money using effigies of Guy Fawkes'. "Penny for the guy" was the famous saying used. Gradually, the 5th November became known as Guy Fawkes' Day.

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SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the fifth of November. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) What is 'gunpowder'?
- 2) What is a 'bonfire'?
- 3) How do people celebrate this event in the United Kingdom?
- 4) What happened towards the end of the 18th century?
- 5) Sum up the article.

Student B questions

- 1) State the date.
- 2) Who is the article talking about?
- 3) Name the King.
- 4) What happened in 1605?
- 5) Name the religions.

Category: History / Guy Fawkes' / 5 November
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

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WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Guy Fawkes**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – think of three types of firework you might see on bonfire night and three hot foods you might eat there. Write them below.

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

Add three things you know about the Gunpowder Plot. Add three effigies of people you might like to make and burn! Discuss together.

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – What has the group Anonymous, the movie 'V', and the movie 'Back to the Future' got in common with November the fifth? Discuss together. *5 mins.*

The teacher will choose some students to hear their discussions.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What events do you celebrate with fireworks?
- 3) Have you ever celebrated Guy Fawkes' Night?
- 4) Do you go to organised firework festivals?
- 5) What sorts of hot food do you like to eat at fireworks displays?
- 6) As a child did you play 'Penny for the guy'?
- 7) What does the article tell us about religion?
- 8) When did you have a bonfire?
- 9) What are your favourite fireworks?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is: *Guy Fawkes' night.*

- 1) A Guy Fawkes' Night organiser from a local town in the United Kingdom.
- 2) A relative of Guy Fawkes'.
- 3) A fireworks shop seller.
- 4) A fireman.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. Compare Guy Fawkes' night with an event that uses fireworks in your country. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

Guy Fawkes' Night (Google it!)

The teacher can moderate the session.

Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Guy Fawkes' Night.** Your email can be read out in class.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What did the gunpowder plotters want?
- 3) What do you know about King James I of England?
- 4) What do you celebrate on the fifth of November?
- 5) Do people light bonfires around your country for special events? Explain.
- 6) Why do people celebrate Guy Fawkes' Night?
- 7) Do they celebrate Guy Fawkes' Night in your country?
- 8) What might have happened if Guy Fawkes' hadn't been discovered?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Remember Remember the Fifth of November!

Today, we are going to talk about *Guy Fawkes' Night* or *Bonfire Night*. The (1)___ is held every year in the United Kingdom on the evening of the fifth of November.

The annual (2)___ is to remind us of the events of the 5th November 1605 when Guy Fawkes', who was a Catholic, was caught and arrested in the (3)___ of the Houses of Parliament while guarding the (4)___ that was to be used to blow it up.

Guy Fawkes' was a member of 'The Gunpowder Plot'. The group's (5)___ was to kill King James I, who was a Protestant, and replace him with a Catholic King. In those days Catholics in the United Kingdom had to (6)___ their religion in (7)__. When he became King, James I had introduced more laws against Catholics; many of whom thought the government were treating them (8)__.

secret / cellars / commemoration / unfairly / practise / aim / gunpowder / event

To celebrate King James I surviving the (1)___ people lit (2)___ around London. Months later saw the introduction of the 'Observance of the 5th November Act', which enforced an (3)___ public day of thanksgiving for the plot's (4)__.

After a few decades the 'Gunpowder Treason Day', as it was known, also became a (5)___ for anti-Catholic sentiment. Increasingly raucous celebrations saw folk begin to burn effigies of popular figures of the time; including the Pope and Guy Fawkes'.

Towards the end of the 18th century children began begging for money using (6)___ of Guy Fawkes'. "(7)___ for the guy" was the famous saying used. (8)___, the 5th November became known as Guy Fawkes' Day.

effigies / bonfires / annual / gradually / focus / plot / penny / failure

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Remember Remember the Fifth of November!

Today, we are going to talk about *Guy Fawkes' Night* or *Bonfire Night*. The event is held (1)___ year in the United Kingdom on the evening of the fifth of November.

The annual commemoration is to remind us of the events of the 5th November 1605 when Guy Fawkes', who was a Catholic, was caught and arrested in the cellars of the Houses of Parliament (2)___ guarding the gunpowder (3)___ was to be used to blow it up.

Guy Fawkes' was a member of 'The Gunpowder Plot'. The group's aim was to kill King James I, who was a Protestant, and replace him with a Catholic King. In (4)___ days Catholics in the United Kingdom had to practise (5)___ religion in secret. (6)___ he became King, James I had introduced (7)___ laws against Catholics; many of (8)___ thought the government were treating them unfairly.

whom / more / every / their / while / when / that / those

To celebrate King James I surviving the plot people lit bonfires around London. Months later saw the introduction (1)___ the 'Observance of the 5th November Act', which enforced (2)___ annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure.

After (3)___ few decades the 'Gunpowder Treason Day', as (4)___ was known, also became a focus for anti-Catholic sentiment. Increasingly raucous celebrations saw folk begin to burn effigies of popular figures of (5)___ time; including the Pope (6)___ Guy Fawkes'.

Towards the end of the 18th century children began begging for money using effigies of Guy Fawkes'. "Penny (7)___ the guy" was the famous saying used. Gradually, the 5th November became known (8)___ Guy Fawkes' Day.

as / it / of / an / for / the / and / a

Remember Remember the Fifth of November! – 30th October 2013



GAP FILL: LISTENING

Remember Remember the Fifth of November!

Today, we are going to talk about _____ *Bonfire Night*. The event is held every year in the United Kingdom on the evening of the fifth of November.

The _____ is to remind us of the events of the 5th November 1605 when Guy Fawkes', who was a Catholic, was caught and arrested in the cellars of the _____ while guarding the gunpowder that was to be used to blow it up.

Guy Fawkes' was a member of '_____'. The group's aim was to kill King James I, who was a Protestant, and replace him with a Catholic King. In those days Catholics in the United Kingdom had to _____ in secret. When he became King, James I had introduced _____ Catholics; many of whom thought the government were treating them unfairly. To celebrate King James I surviving the plot people lit _____.

Months later saw the introduction of the 'Observance of the 5th November Act', which enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure. After a few decades the '_____', as it was known, also became a focus for anti-Catholic sentiment. Increasingly raucous celebrations saw folk begin to burn effigies of popular figures of the time; _____ and Guy Fawkes'.

Towards the end of the 18th century children began begging for money using effigies of Guy Fawkes'. "_____" was the famous saying used. Gradually, the 5th November became known as Guy Fawkes' Day.

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THE ARTICLE

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By the end of the 1850s social attitudes began to change. There was a toning down of anti-Catholic sentiment, which in some towns had become quite violent. In 1859, the original 1606 legislation was repealed.

In 1870, during Victorian times, a poem was created to commemorate the event. Here is the beginning of it...

*Remember remember the fifth of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot.
I see no reason why gunpowder, treason
Should ever be forgot.*

By the 20th century Guy Fawkes' Night had become an enjoyable social occasion. People celebrated it with fireworks and bonfires with an effigy of Guy Fawkes' burnt on top of the bonfire.

Today children still make an effigy of Guy Fawkes' using straw and old clothes. "Penny for the guy" is still said using this effigy in order to raise money to buy fireworks. The phrase was originally coined when pennies bought a lot of them!

These days, for safety reasons, Guy Fawkes' Night is mostly celebrated at large town organised events; where folk can watch large bonfires lit and see extravagant firework displays.

Extra quiz questions

- 1) What happened in the 1850s?
- 2) Can you recite the Victorian poem from memory?
- 3) These days how is Guy Fawkes' Night celebrated?
- 4) Who says 'Penny for the guy' and what does it mean?
- 5) What is an effigy?

Remember Remember the Fifth of November! – *30th October 2013*