

The Gunpowder Plot

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The Gunpowder Plot was a plan to blow up the king of England, Members of Parliament and many important people that ran the country at that time.

How the Plan Came to Be

In 1604, England was ruled by King James I. He was not a Catholic and treated Catholics badly. He made new laws against Catholic people, which made them angry.

A Catholic man called Robert Catesby met with two other men in London. Catesby told them he had an idea to get rid of the king and some other important people in parliament.

Gathering the Plotters

One of the plotters, who was called Thomas Wintour, asked Spain if they could help with the plan but they refused.



He soon met Guy Fawkes. Fawkes was an explosives expert. He was a Catholic, who also hated the king. He agreed to help so the two men sailed back to England together.

That night, Wintour and Fawkes met with Catesby and two other men in the Duck and Drake pub in London. They talked about their plot.

Planning

Thomas Percy rented a vault, which was like a cellar, right under the House of Lords. At night, Guy Fawkes hid the barrels of gunpowder in the vault.

The Anonymous Letter

Lord Monteagle was given an anonymous letter, warning him not to go to the opening of Parliament on the 5th November, 1605.

The king was shown the letter and he ordered an investigation. The House of Lords was searched and there in the vault was Guy Fawkes with 36 barrels of gunpowder!

anonymous - The person who wrote the letter did not put their name on it.

The End of the Plot

Most of the other plotters escaped to the Midlands. Catesby, Percy and the Wright brothers were killed in a gunfight. The rest were caught and taken to the Tower of London. They were later executed.

Fawkes was arrested. He was tortured until he told the soldiers everything about the plot. This included the names of the other men involved. Fawkes was also then executed.



The Gunpowder Plot Questions

1. What year was the Gunpowder Plot bombing supposed to take place?

2. Why did Catholics not like King James I of England?

3. Who had the idea for the Gunpowder Plot?

4. Where did Thomas Wintour go to ask for help?

5. Name one thing that made Fawkes a good choice for helping the plotters.

6. Where did the plotters meet to discuss the plan?

7. What did Thomas Percy rent the vault for?

8. What word means that Lord Monteagle did not know who sent him the warning letter?

9. What was Guy Fawkes found with when he was arrested?

10. What information did the soldiers want from Guy Fawkes when they questioned him?

The Gunpowder Plot **Answers**

1. What year was the Gunpowder Plot bombing supposed to take place?

The Gunpowder Plot bombing was supposed to take place in 1605.

2. Why did Catholics not like King James I of England?

The Catholics did not like King James I because he treated them badly/ made new laws against them.

3. Who had the idea for the Gunpowder Plot?

Robert Catesby had the idea for the Gunpowder Plot.

4. Where did Thomas Wintour go to ask for help?

Thomas Wintour asked the Spain to help with the plot.

5. Name one thing that made Fawkes a good choice for helping the plotters.

Fawkes was a good choice for helping the plotters because he was Catholic/ he hated the king/ he was an explosives expert.

6. Where did the plotters meet to discuss the plan?

To discuss the plan, the plotters met in a pub in London called the Duck and Drake.

7. What did Thomas Percy rent the vault for?

Thomas Percy rented the vault so that they could store the barrels of gunpowder.

8. What word means that Lord Monteagle did not know who sent him the warning letter?

'Anonymous' means that Lord Monteagle did not know who sent him the warning letter.

9. What was Guy Fawkes found with when he was arrested?

Guy Fawkes was found with 36 barrels of gunpowder when he was arrested.

10. 10. What information did the soldiers want from Guy Fawkes when they questioned him?

The soldiers wanted Guy Fawkes to tell them everything about the plot and the names of everyone involved.