

2

Life in the past



Reading

Adapted from *The Diary of Samuel Pepys*

In 1666, Samuel Pepys, a writer and government administrator in Great Britain, wrote a famous diary.

Monday, 22nd January It was very cold this morning - there was ice on the inside of the windows! The servants made a fire for me in the bedroom. I had to wear three jackets, but I was still freezing! It was dark, too - I needed two candles to write this diary entry.	Friday, 15th June Today I bought Elisabeth a very expensive necklace - it costs £4! Mr Hales is coming to paint her portrait today. He's an art artist, but he used to work in my office. I'm worried because Elisabeth's false teeth are very uncomfortable. She'll have to sit for hours while Mr Hales paints her portrait - I hope she doesn't look unhappy.
Wednesday, 7th February Most people haven't got a clock or a watch because they're very expensive. Last night, the cat woke me up. I didn't know what time it was. Then I heard the night watchman shouting, 'One o'clock on a cold and windy night'. This morning, I bought my very first watch, so now I'll always know the time!	Sunday, 2nd September The servants woke me up early this morning - there's a great fire in the City of London! It was an emergency, so I rode my horse into the city to speak to the King. There used to build houses here with stone. Now they use wood, so the fire is growing very quickly. Soldiers are pulling down houses in front of the fire, but it's still moving very fast.
Friday, 16th March I can't see very well, so yesterday I bought a pair of glasses. I took the boat to my office and I could see all the ships, so it was difficult to get to work. The river didn't use to be so busy. But I'm so pleased that I can see clearly again!	Monday, 4th September Elisabeth and I were worried that our house was going to burn down, so this afternoon we took our possessions outside and hid them. One of my most expensive possessions is a block of Parmesan cheese from Italy! We dug a hole in the garden and buried the cheese so no one can steal it! I hope it stays safe!

UNIT 2 : Life in the past (True or False)

Read the diary. Write T (True) or F (False).

1. Samuel Pepys bought a watch to tell the time.

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2. He got to work quickly on 16th March.

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3. Elisabeth had her own teeth.

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4. It took a long time to paint a portrait.

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5. The Great Fire of London started on 2nd September.

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6. It destroyed houses built of stone.

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Skills :3.2.1 Understand the main idea of simple longer texts.

1.2.1 Understand with little or no support the main idea of longer simple texts on a range of familiar topics.

[PL:3]