

# Features of a Recount

The text below is an extract from a recount about the Great Fire of London. Some examples of the features of a recount have been highlighted.

The Days London Burned

It was the year 1666 and London was a bustling city. Edward was eight years old. He lived with his parents near to the River Thames, where boats were always delivering food from afar. Here, he tells us his version of events that night.

I woke up **suddenly** during the night. It **was** Sunday and the church bells were ringing **as loud as thunder**. It must be a warning I thought. **My** father, John, came rushing into the room shouting and waving his arms around. "Fire, fire!" he shouted.

We quickly **ran** from our home into the street. All we could see were flames surrounding us. There was indeed a fire: a fire that would spread across the city and dramatically change our lives forever.

**past tense** (points to 'was', 'was', 'shouted')

**adverbs** (points to 'suddenly', 'as loud as thunder')

**first person** (points to 'I', 'My')

**chronological order** (vertical label on the right)

**descriptive words** (points to 'as loud as thunder', 'shouting')

**paragraphs** (points to the two paragraphs)

Your task is to identify any other examples of these features in the text.

Write the next short paragraph to carry on from the text. Describe the flames as well as what Edward and his dad did. Use the word bank to help you.

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Word bank:

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|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Dad   | fire    | grabbed | put out  | water   | raging   |
| grew  | helping | flames  | squirt   | watched | bucket   |
| shock | helping | men     | hundreds | rushed  | powerful |