## SOURCE A

## Taken from Samuel Pepys' diary, September 1666.

In this extract, Samuel Pepys is describing the Great Fire of London.

Jane [a maid] called us up about three in the morning, to tell us of a great fire they saw in the City. So I rose, and slipped on my night-gown, and went to her window; and thought it to be on the back-side of Marke- lane at the farthest, but being unused to such fires as followed, I thought it far enough off; and so went to bed again, and to sleep. About seven rose again to dress myself, and there looked out at the window, and saw the fire not so much as it was, and further off. So to my closet to set things to rights, after yesterday's cleaning. By and by Jane comes and tells me that she hears that above 300 houses have been burned down to-night by the fire we saw, and that it is now burning down all Fish-street, by London Bridge. So I made myself ready presently, and walked to the Tower, and there got up upon one of the high places, Sir J. Robinson's little son going up with me; and there I did see the houses at that end of the bridge all on fire, and an infinite great fire on this and the other side the end of the bridge; which, among other people, did trouble me for poor little Michell and our Sarah on the bridge. So down with my heart full of trouble to the Lieutenant of the Tower, who tells me that it begun this morning in the King's baker's [His name was Faryner.] house in Puddinglane, and that it hath burned down St. Magnes Church and most part of Fish-street already. So I down to the water-side, and there got a boat, and through bridge, and there saw a lamentable fire. Poor Michell's house, as far as the Old Swan, already burned that way, and the fire running further, that in a very little time it got as far as the Steele-yard, while I was there. Every body endeavouring to remove their goods, and flinging into the river, or bringing them into lighters that lay off; poor people staying in their houses as long as till the very fire touched them, and then running into boats, or clambering from one pair of stairs by the water-side to another. And among other things, the poor pigeons, I perceive, were loth to leave their houses, but hovered about the windows and balconys, till they burned their wings, and fell down.

## SOURCE B

Read the following article that appeared in the *Guardian* newspaper, in 1987: www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2012/nov/19/kings-cross-fire-archive-1987

- Q1. Read source A. Choose four statements below which are TRUE.
  - The maid tells Pepys over 400 houses have been burned down.
  - Pepys was initially unconcerned by the fire burning in the city.
  - Pepys slept for four more hours after his maid told him of the fire.
  - To get a closer look, Pepys took a boat across the river Thames.
  - The maid's name is Janet.
  - Animals such as birds also lost their lives in the Great Fire.
  - The Lieutenant tells Pepys the fire started in St Magnes (St Magnus's) church.
- **Q2.** You need to refer to **source A** and **source B** for this question:

Use details from **both** sources. Write a summary of the differences between the fires in London.

- **Q3.** You now need to refer **only** to **source B**. How does the writer use language to make this event sound so dramatic?
- Q4. For this question, you need to refer to the whole of source A together with source B.

Compare how the two writers convey the impact of the fires on the people and environment.

In your answer, you could:

- compare their different attitudes
- compare the methods they use to convey their attitudes
- support your ideas with references to both texts.

