

19.7.21

LC: To explain why the Great Fire of London spread so quickly.

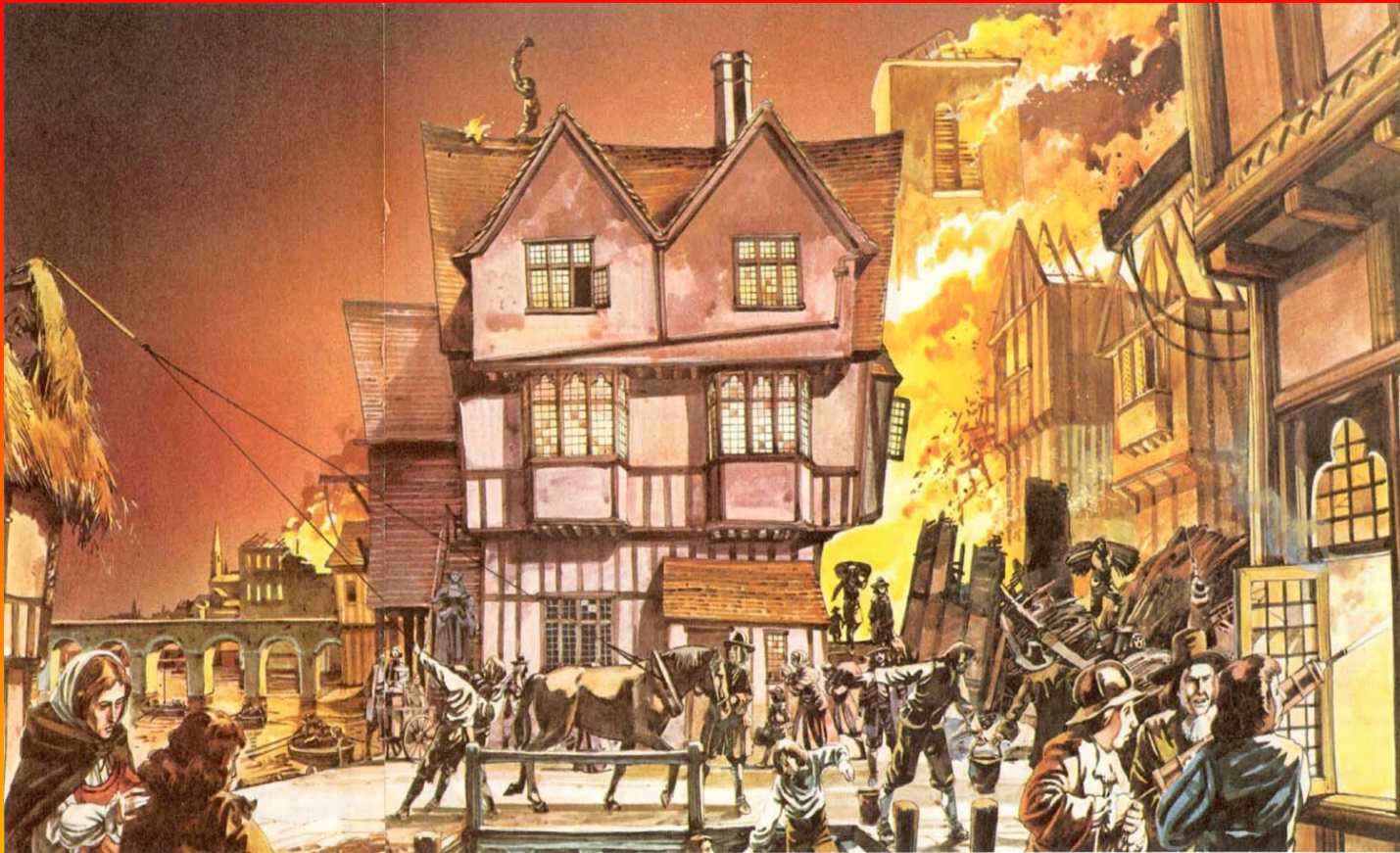
The fire started on Monday 3rd September 1666 and burned for **five days!**

There was a **strong breeze** on the night the fire started, which made the fire spread more quickly.

This wasn't the only reason the Great Fire of London spread so quickly and was so difficult to put out...



As you can see the houses were really **close together on narrow streets**.  
The houses were also **made out of wood and straw**.



There were **no fire engines** and **people only had short ladders and small water hoses**, so they couldn't tackle the large flames.

In a desperate effort to stop the fire **people started to pull down the houses or blow them up.**



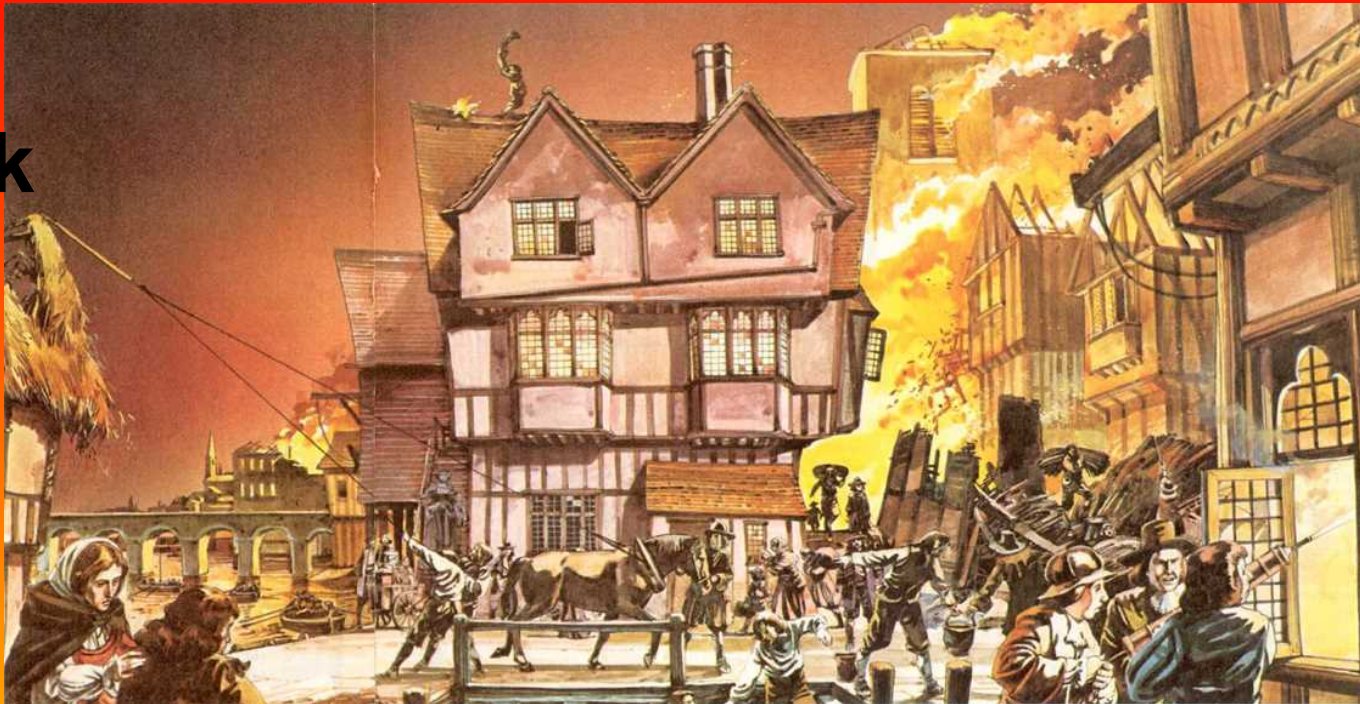
Around 70,000 people lost their homes!

Many tried to escape to St Paul's Cathedral because it was made out of stone - the roof however was made from wood so it burned down too!

Eventually the winds stopped and the fire began to die down.

Over 13,000 homes, 87 churches and St Paul's Cathedral were burned down in the Great Fire.

## Task



Can you label the picture with the reasons as to why the fire spread so quickly?

**Extension:** If a fire happened in London today, what would be different? How would it be put out?