

Bonfire Night **Broadcast News**

The printing press was in existence at the time of the Gunpowder Plot, though the concept of daily papers remained almost two centuries away, with news and ideas instead disseminated through self-published pamphlets or, more commonly, public speaking. Radio and television broadcasting arrived another century later.

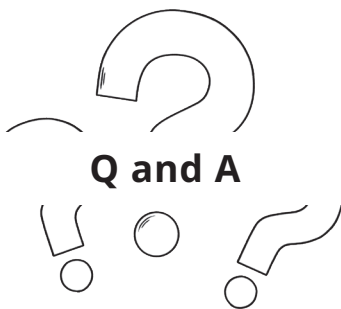
Imagine, however, that camera crews were on the scene in 1605. The Houses of Parliament have just been blown to smithereens and it is your job to bring this dramatic, ground-breaking information to the masses...



Focus your story



News sources



Q and A

This is a major event and though we have rolling, twenty-four-hour news, you can't possibly cover everything in your allocated slot.

So, will you focus on (a) the dreadful loss of life, (b) what has happened to the King, (c) the perpetrators – who and why, (d) wider implications to government and society... what is of most concern to viewers?

Who are you going to use as sources of information...?

The experts and authorities e.g. fire crews, the King's Guard, ministers and nobility (Lord Montague apparently received an anonymous letter warning him to stay away from Parliament).

Man on the street – eyewitnesses and those who are affected by events.

Devise a list of questions to ask each of your interviewees...

What else do you need to do to be ready for broadcast?

Fail to prepare, prepare to fail...

And you don't want to do that on live TV!

ON AIR

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

ON AIR

Newsroom vacancy: based on their work today, which of your classmates would you hire and why?