

The Great Stink of London

Have you ever smelled something really bad?

Vocabulary

1. dumping 2. terrible 3. worried 4. population 5. sewage 6. success

True Story

In the 1800s, London had a big problem with waste. The River Thames was used as a _____ ground, and the city smelled very bad. In 1858, the smell became so _____ that it was called "The Great Stink." People were _____ about their health, so the government decided to fix the problem.

Sir Joseph Bazalgette was in charge of building a new _____ system. He created a series of sewers to carry waste away from the city. This helped clean the river and made London a healthier place to live.

Even though it was expensive, the project was a _____. Today, London is building a bigger sewer because the _____ has grown so much. This new system will help keep the Thames clean for the future.

Quiz

1. What was the River Thames used as in the 1800s?
2. What was the bad smell in London called in 1858?
3. Who was in charge of building the new sewage system?
4. Why is London building a bigger sewer today?

True or False

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. The Great Stink happened in 1858. | True False |
| 2. Sir Joseph Bazalgette helped clean the River Thames. | True False |
| 3. The new sewage system was cheap to build. | True False |

Conversation

- A: Sir Bazalgette, the city smells awful!
- B: I know, we need a plan to fix it.
- A: Can you really build a new sewage system?
- B: Yes, it will be big and expensive, but worth it.
- A: I hope it works, the smell is unbearable.
- B: Don't worry, London will be a cleaner place soon!

Discussion

1. Have you ever been to a city with a bad smell?
2. What do you do when you smell something bad?
3. Do you think it's important to keep rivers clean?
4. Would you like to work on a big project like Sir Bazalgette?
5. What do you think London smells like today?