THE CONTEXT

pp. 24-29

pg. 26, es. 1 The Plague of London

1 The extracts cover the period of time between the 22 August of 1665 and the 31 December of 1666.

2 The Plague was particularly severe in a period between August and December.

3 The Plague diminished at the end of the year 1666.

4 Sure the writer had feared by the Plague in fact he had transferred his wife and children in a house in Woolwich while he and another part of his family, his clerks were transferred at Greenwich.

5 To this man the most important thing is to encreased his money, he doesn’t understand that in the while thousand and thousand of poor people was constricted to remain in the zone of the Plague and died. He thought only if the king would give to him some satisfaction for reintegrated the money that he had use to transferred his family far to the Plague.
He doesn’t understand the value of the life of a person, his interests are his family, the money and him not the others for example his maid, who remain under his order in London.

Pg.27 es. 1 The Great Fire of London

1 The fire started the 2 of September 1666 in London with the conflagration of the churches , public halls, Exchange hospitals, monuments and ornaments and then it went from house to house, from street to street.

2

3 The people were so astonished, you can heard everywhere crying of lamentation then the people running about like they were mad.

4 The emotions and feelings of the writer were revealed in the first line and in the last 4 lines.

es.2

1 adjectives conveying emotions – fatal and deplorable (l.1 of the title), universal and astonish (l.3 of the title),

2 personifications

3 emphatic language

4 exclamations – Oh the miserable and calamitous spectacle! (l. 13)

5 similes – Running about like distracted (mad) (l.3), All the skie was of a fiery aspect like the top of a burning oven (ll-15-16)

Pag.28 The self check es.1 The European Scene

1 In the 16th century, Britain was at an advantage over other European countries in colonizing the New World. TRUE

2 The Renaissance gave new strength to the Catholic Church. FALSE

3 The Renaissance looked back to Greek and Roman cultures. TRUE

4 The reformation was a religious movement against corruption within the Church. TRUE

5 Protestantism and Calvinism are two names for the same doctrine. FALSE

6 The English Puritans, the Scots Presbyterians, and the French Huguenots were Calvinist. TRUE

7 The aim of the Counter-Reformation were against corruption within the Church. FALSE

8 The Jesuits and the Inquisition were against corruption within the Church. FALSE

9 The Reformation and the Counter-Reformation caused religious conflicts in several European countries. TRUE

Pag. 29 es.2 The British Scene: The Tudors

The Tudors began to reign with Henry VII. He ended the war of the Roses and provided financial and governmental stability to England. Under Henry VII the connection between England and the Pope in Rome was ended. The Act of Supremacy made the king head of the Church in England. Catholicism was replaced with Anglicanism. Catholic monasteries and convents were abolished and the clergy’s properties were confiscated by the Crown.
Thomas Moore, a Chancellor of the king who refused to take the act of Supremacy, was put to death.
Mary Tudor, one of Henry VIII’s successors, attempted to restore the Catholic religion in the country and persecuted Protestants.
Elizabeth I re-established Anglicanism and kept Catholics and Puritans under control. She ruled with great caution and skill for a long period. At home, she passed the “Poor Law “ which took care of deprived people; many of them were peasants impoverished by the enclosure movement.
Abroad Elizabeth made England one of the most powerful nations in Europe and in the world. Her fleet defeated the Spanish Armada. Companies for overseas trade were founded in Africa and India.

es. 3 The Britich Scene : The Stuarts

At Elizabeth’s death James VI of Scotland became also James I of England. He tried to rule as an absolute monarch causing hostility between Parliament and himself. The king and parliament were threatened by the Gunpowder Plot, organized by Catholics which failed.
Like his father Charles I believed in the principle of the divine right of kings. Parliament’s Petition of Rights opposed the king’s attempt to impose taxes without parliamentary consent.
Under Charles I English society was divided by many religious differences. A Civil War broke out in 1642 because the Puritan leaders in the House of Commons wanted to limit royal authority. Royalist forces included the Catholics, the gentry and the aristocracy . Parliamentary forces included the wealthy middle classes of businessmen and merchants. The Parliamentary army , led by Oliver Cromwell, defeated the Royalist in 1645. The king was executed in 1649.
A republic, called the Commonwealth was instituted under Cromwell’s rule, but it collapsed at his death.
Charles II was restored the English throne in 1660. During his reign, two catastrophes hit the city, a fire and the plague.
The king’s successor, James II, wanted to impose Catholicism on an Anglican nation. For this reason he was deposed in 1688.