

# Activity 2 – Reading Comprehension

## In Case of Fire By Samuel Pepys

Fires are dangerous. They can even burn down large parts of a city. Here's how to keep your property safe.

What you need:

-servant    -cart    -spade

What you do:

- First, make sure your servant knows to wake you up if there is a fire nearby.
- If you have time, load your belongings onto a cart and ride them to safety.
- Then, go back home and dig a hole in your garden.
- Go to your larder and find your finest cheese.
- Put the cheese in the hole and cover with soil.
- Run away!

1. Which step in the instructions suggests these were written for a long time ago?  
Give a reason for your choice.

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2. Why did Samuel Pepys think you should bury your cheese in case of a fire?

Tick one.

to cook it slowly

to stop the fire

to keep it safe

3. Find and copy one word that means the same as a large food cupboard.

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**CHALLENGE:** What is the *more likely* purpose of this text – to instruct others about what to do in case of a fire or to entertain the reader? Why?