

# Gunpowder Plot – Glossary

**anonymous** adjective

used about something that is done, written etc by someone whose name is not known:

*an anonymous phone call/letter*

**aristocracy** noun [count]

the people in the highest class of society, who usually have money, land, and power and who often have special titles, such as ‘duke’ or ‘countess’:

*She married into the aristocracy.*

**arrest** verb [transitive]

if the police arrest someone, they take that person to a police station because they believe he or she has committed a crime:

*Police raided the store at dawn, arresting six men and seizing hundred of pirated CDs.*

**attend** verb [intransitive]

to be present at an event or activity:

*Everyone in the office was expected to attend.*

**authorities** noun plural

the police or people in other official organizations with legal power to make people obey laws or rules:

*The French authorities have refused to issue him a visa.*

**barrel** noun [count]

a round wooden, metal, or plastic container with a flat top and bottom, used for storing liquids:

*empty beer barrels*

**blow** noun [count]

an event that spoils your chances of success:

*Losing a second match would be a major blow to his world title hopes.*

**blow up** verb [intransitive]

if something blows up or if someone blows something up, it explodes and is destroyed:

*Terrorists had threatened to blow up the embassy.*

**bonfire** noun [count]

a large fire built outside for burning waste. People also have bonfires at parties or celebrations.

**brother-in-law** noun [count]

the brother of your husband or wife

**Catholic** noun [count]

a member of the Roman Catholic Church

**cellar** noun [count]

a room under a building, below the level of the ground, usually used for storing things

**conspirator** noun [count]

someone who secretly makes a plan with another person or group to do something bad or illegal, especially in politics

**dramatic** adjective

sudden and surprising or easy to notice:

*The change in him was dramatic.*

**effigy** noun [count]

a model of someone, especially one destroyed in a protest against them

**execute** verb [transitive]

to kill someone as a punishment for a crime:

*The state will execute him in 24 hours unless his appeal is granted.*

**explode** verb [intransitive]

to burst with a lot of force and a loud noise:

*Bombs were exploding all over the city.*

**firework** noun [count]

an object that explodes when you light it and produces coloured lights and loud noises:

*a firework display/party*

**fuse** noun [count]

an object like string that burns slowly to make a bomb, firework etc explode

**Gunpowder Plot, the** noun

a plan in 1605 by Roman Catholics in England to destroy Parliament in an explosion. The plan failed, but is remembered in Britain every year on Guy Fawkes’ night.

**Houses of Parliament, the**

the parliament in the UK, or the buildings where parliament meets

**monarch** noun [count]

a king or queen

**plotter** noun [count]

someone who secretly makes a plan with another person or group to do something bad or illegal

**Protestant** noun [count]  
a member of a group of Christian Churches that separated from the Roman Catholic Church in the 16<sup>th</sup> century

**replica** noun [count]  
an accurate copy of something:  
*a replica of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century sailing ship.*

**reveal** verb [transitive]  
to let something become known, for example a secret or information that was previously not known:  
*She refused to reveal the contents of the letter.*

**set** noun [count]  
a group of things of the same type that belong together:  
*a set of keys*

**set off** phrasal verb  
to make something explode:  
*Somebody was setting off fireworks down the street.*

**socialize** verb [intransitive]  
to spend time with other people socially, for example at a party:  
*I spent most of my first year at college socializing.*

**spectacular** adjective  
extremely impressive:  
*We had a spectacular view of the coastline from the plane.*

**store** verb [transitive]  
to keep something in a particular place:  
*Store the cake in an airtight container.*

**succeed** verb [intransitive]  
to achieve something that you planned to do or attempted to do:  
*We all want to make the peace process succeed.*

**suspicious** adjective  
believing that someone has probably done something wrong:  
*Colleagues became suspicious when he started acting strangely.*

**tension** noun [count/uncount]  
the feeling caused by a lack of trust between people, groups, or countries who do not agree about something and may attack each other:  
*racial/political/social tensions*

**throne** noun  
the position of being a king or a queen:  
*an heir to the throne*

**torture** verb [transitive]  
to hurt a person or animal deliberately in a very cruel way, especially as a punishment or in order to make them say something:  
*Many of the prisoners had been tortured.*

**tradition** noun [count]  
a very old custom, belief, or story:  
*Native American culture and traditions*

**within**  
not more than a particular distance away:  
*A shell exploded within 50 metres of the Allied headquarters.*