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**Handout 38c: Comparison activity to select the best introduction to the question, ‘Why did the Great Fire of London get out of control and destroy so much of London?’**

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| **Introduction 1** The Great Fire of London destroyed a lot of London. I think the mayor was very silly and it was all his fault because he didn’t listen to what anyone said and if he had done something about it earlier on then it wouldn’t have burnt so many houses and then London would have been all right. | **Introduction 3**Have you ever wondered why the Great Fire of London got out of control and destroyed so much of London. Today in history we have been discussing this and there are lots of reasons and I am going to tell you what we have decided. |
| **Introduction 2**House fires in 17th century London were an everyday occurrence and yet one such fire destroyed so much of London that it has become known as the Great Fire of London. Perhaps the explanation for why this particular fire got out of control is that such destruction was inevitable, given the way London was built, and was just waiting for the right weather conditions to happen. | **Introduction 4**Someone started a fire in Pudding Lane. The flames swiftly set the wooden beams alight and the wind spread the flames from one wooden house to another, lighting up the night sky. House after house, street after street, quickly went up in flames and in a very short time most of London was alight like a forest fire. Officials tried to pull down houses to extinguish the flames but it was out of control. They just had to flee and watch London burn. |