

The Pendle Witches



8 Some people used to think that witches existed
17 a long time ago if strange things happened. A
25 lady called Alison was walking along a path
33 in Lancaster when she saw a shopkeeper called
42 John Law. She asked him if she could buy
51 some pins but she did not have much money.
59 Pins were very expensive and John did not
69 want to give them to her. As John carried on
76 walking, he suddenly fell over. People believed
85 that Alison had put a spell on John because
95 she was upset that she could not have the pins
104 she wanted. This was not true and Alison was
111 not a witch. John was just poorly.



Questions



1. Number these events from 1 to 3 to show the order they happened in.

- John fell over.
- Alison asked John for some pins.
- John said no to Alison.



2. Which word in the text means that something costs a lot of money?



3. Why might people have thought that Alison was a witch?



4. Where did the events in the text happen?

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Answers



1. Number these events from 1 to 3 to show the order they happened in.

- 3** John fell over.
- 1** Alison asked John for some pins.
- 2** John said no to Alison.



2. Which word in the text means that something costs a lot of money?

expensive



3. Why might people have thought that Alison was a witch?

Pupils' own responses, such as: People might think that Alison was a witch because John was poorly straight away after not giving her the pins.



4. Where did the events in the text happen?

The events in this text happened in Lancaster.