

Halloween

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. When is Halloween?
2. Do you celebrate Halloween in your country?
3. What Halloween costumes will you see this year?
4. What is your favorite type of treat?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. dress up | a) a Halloween greeting kids use when knocking on doors |
| ___ 2. costume | b) a person who studies and experiments with the science of magic |
| ___ 3. monster | c) to put on a costume |
| ___ 4. ghost | d) a scary, imaginary creature |
| ___ 5. wizard | e) a spiritual, earthy person who uses magic (often female) |
| ___ 6. witch | f) an outfit that makes you look like a character |
| ___ 7. pirate | g) a thief who steals from ships at sea |
| ___ 8. Trick or treat! | h) the spirit of a dead person |
| ___ 9. jack-o'-lantern | i) a carved pumpkin |
| ___ 10. pumpkin | j) a large, round orange fruit with many seeds |



Reading

1. Halloween is on October 31. Halloween is not a holiday, but it is a fun event in Canada and the United States. On Halloween, people **dress up** in **costumes**. Some people wear masks and some wear makeup. They dress up as **monsters**, famous people, **ghosts, wizards, witches, pirates**, and other scary or funny creatures.
2. On Halloween evening, children go from house to house in their neighborhoods shouting "**Trick or treat!**" At each house, people give out many different kinds of candy and treats. In the past, it was also common to give children apples on Halloween. Teens and adults have fun too. Some hand out candy and others go to costume parties.
3. One traditional Halloween custom is to put a **jack-o'-lantern** in the window. To make a jack-o'-lantern, clean out the inside of a **pumpkin**, cut out a face, and put a candle inside. People often decorate their homes with jack-o'-lanterns, black cats, spiders, witches, bats, and ghosts.
4. Have a safe and happy Halloween!

Comprehension

Practice asking and answering the following questions with your partner. Then write your answers in your notebook.

1. When is Halloween?
2. Is Halloween a holiday?
3. What do people dress up as on Halloween?
4. What do children shout when they go from house to house?
5. What do people give out at each house?
6. Where do people put jack-o'-lanterns on Halloween?
7. What do people put inside their jack-o'-lanterns?
8. How do people decorate their homes on Halloween?

Just for Fun

Unscramble the following words from the reading.
Then find some of them in the word search below.

A. Unscramble the Words

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1. ackj-o'-telrnna | _____ | 6. chwit | _____ |
| 2. tumcose | _____ | 7. diarwz | _____ |
| 3. ritape | _____ | 8. stromen | _____ |
| 4. ssred pu | _____ | 9. crikt or reatt | _____ |
| 5. nikipupm | _____ | 10. shotg | _____ |

B. Find the Words

Can you find eight words from
Part A in the word search?
There is also a bonus word.
Can you find it?

g	h	o	s	t	e	r	p	s	t	h
p	d	r	e	s	s	u	p	m	i	a
i	w	d	r	a	m	i	w	o	c	l
r	h	s	v	p	s	s	i	n	d	l
a	i	s	k	e	l	e	t	s	r	o
t	m	i	s	s	y	s	c	t	a	w
e	n	v	e	s	s	a	h	e	z	e
c	o	s	t	u	m	e	r	r	i	e
d	t	c	o	g	u	t	e	d	w	n

Bonus word:

Halloween Survey

A. Survey

Walk around your classroom and ask your classmates the following questions.

Classmate	Are you going to dress up for Halloween this year?	What are you going to dress up as?

B. Questions

After you have finished the survey, answer the following questions on your own.

1. How many people in your class are going to dress up for Halloween?

2. What is the most interesting costume?

3. Are any students going to dress up as the same thing? If yes, how many?

4. What did you dress up as last year?

5. Do you like Halloween?

Listening

Fill in the blanks as you listen to the recording.

1. Halloween is on October 31. Halloween is not a holiday, but it is a fun event in Canada and the United States. On Halloween, people _____ in costumes. Some people wear masks and some wear makeup. They dress up as _____ , famous people, _____ , wizards, witches, pirates, and other scary or funny creatures.
2. On Halloween evening, children go from house to house in their neighborhoods shouting " _____ " At each house, people give out many different kinds of candy and treats. In the past, it was also common to give children apples on Halloween. Teens and adults have fun too. Some hand out candy and others go to _____ parties.
3. One traditional Halloween custom is to put a _____ in the window. To make a jack-o'-lantern, clean out the inside of a _____ , cut out a face, and put a candle inside. People often decorate their homes with jack-o'-lanterns, black cats, spiders, witches, bats, and ghosts.
4. Have a safe and happy _____ !

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

This lesson includes useful vocabulary, a short reading, and a few word puzzles. Students try to write their own ghost stories.

LEVEL: Low Int

TIME: 1.5–2 hours

TAGS: holidays, Halloween, spirit, ghost, October, fall, scary, tradition

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

1. Halloween is on October 31.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. c | 3. d | 5. b | 7. g | 9. i |
| 2. f | 4. h | 6. e | 8. a | 10. j |

Reading (and/or Listening)

Read individually, in small groups, or as a class. You can also play the listening as your students read along. A gap-fill version of the reading is available on page 6. Help your students with vocabulary and expressions that they are unfamiliar with.

Comprehension

Break the students into pairs and have them practice asking and answering the comprehension questions. At the end of the oral practice, have students write answers in complete sentences. Review again orally with the whole class.

1. Halloween is on October 31.
2. No, Halloween is not a holiday.
3. People dress up as monsters, famous people, ghosts, witches, pirates, etc.
4. They shout "Trick or treat!"
5. They give out candy and treats.
6. People put jack-o'-lanterns in their windows.
7. People put candles inside their jack-o'-lanterns.
8. People often decorate their homes with black cats, spiders, ghosts, etc.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Just for Fun

A. UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. jack-o'-lantern | 6. witch |
| 2. costume | 7. wizard |
| 3. pirate | 8. monster |
| 4. dress up | 9. trick-or-treat |
| 5. pumpkin | 10. ghost |

B. FIND THE WORDS

g h o s t e r p s t h
 p d r e s s u p m i a
 i w d r a m i w o c
 r h s v p s s n d l
 a i s k e l e t s r o
 t m i s s y s c t a w
 e n v e s s a h e z e
 c o s t u m e r r i e
 d t c o g u t e d w n

Bonus word:

Halloween

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the words *Favorite*, *Neighborhoods* and *Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: *Favourite*, *Neighbourhoods* and *Practise* (when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the text and see if they know the alternate spellings.

Halloween Survey

Answers will vary.

Storytelling

Answers will vary.

Listening

1. dress up, monsters, ghosts
2. Trick or treat!, costume
3. jack-o'-lantern, pumpkin
4. Halloween