

# HALLOWEEN

<http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/10/halloween.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st every year. It originated from a pagan holiday and the Christian holiday of All Saints' Day. The name Halloween is a shortened version of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more of a fun day for children and has largely lost its religious roots. Halloween is probably most famous in the U.S.A. Irish immigrants took it to America in the mid-1600s and it slowly spread across the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many countries around the world although many people know about it. Some Christians are not so happy that people celebrate Halloween. They believe the holiday is un-Christian because of its origin as a pagan "festival of the dead."

Halloween has many easily identifiable symbols. The colours orange and black are widely used. In particular, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are common features of this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children knock on doors and ask for a small gift. If they don't get anything, they'll play a trick on the person who opens the door. Food also plays a big part of Halloween. Toffee apples are very popular and so is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a popular topic for Hollywood. Many horror movies have been made about it. Because of this, Halloween is now known in many countries that never actually celebrate it.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. It originated from a  | <i>a.</i> of All Hallows' Eve |
| 2. a shortened version   | <i>b.</i> happy               |
| 3. Irish immigrants took | <i>c.</i> dead                |
| 4. it slowly spread      | <i>d.</i> pagan holiday       |
| 5. not so                | <i>e.</i> it to America       |
| 6. festival of the       | <i>f.</i> across the country  |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The colours orange and black | <i>a.</i> trick           |
| 2. cats and costumes are common | <i>b.</i> activities      |
| 3. Halloween                    | <i>c.</i> from pumpkin    |
| 4. play a                       | <i>d.</i> are widely used |
| 5. anything made                | <i>e.</i> movies          |
| 6. horror                       | <i>f.</i> features        |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st every year. It \_\_\_\_\_ pagan holiday and the Christian holiday of All Saints' Day. The name Halloween is \_\_\_\_\_ of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more of a fun day for children and has largely lost its religious roots. Halloween is \_\_\_\_\_ in the U.S.A. Irish immigrants took it to America in the mid-1600s and it \_\_\_\_\_ the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many countries around the world although many \_\_\_\_\_ it. Some Christians are not so happy that people celebrate Halloween. They believe the holiday is un-Christian because \_\_\_\_\_ pagan "festival of the dead."

Halloween has many easily identifiable symbols. The colours orange and black \_\_\_\_\_. In particular, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are \_\_\_\_\_ this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children \_\_\_\_\_ and ask for a small gift. If they don't get anything, they'll play a trick on the person who opens the door. Food also \_\_\_\_\_ of Halloween. Toffee apples are very popular and so is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a popular topic for Hollywood. Many horror movies have \_\_\_\_\_. Because of this, Halloween is now known in many countries that \_\_\_\_\_ it.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st every year. It \_\_\_\_\_ from a pagan holiday and the Christian holiday of All Saints' Day. The \_\_\_\_\_ Halloween is a shortened \_\_\_\_\_ of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more of a fun day for children and has largely lost its religious roots. Halloween is probably \_\_\_\_\_ famous in the U.S.A. Irish immigrants took it to America in the mid-1600s and it slowly \_\_\_\_\_ across the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many countries around the world although many people \_\_\_\_\_ about it. Some Christians are not so \_\_\_\_\_ that people celebrate Halloween. They believe the holiday is un-Christian because of its origin as a pagan "festival of the \_\_\_\_\_."

Halloween has many \_\_\_\_\_ identifiable symbols. The colours orange and black are widely used. In particular, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are \_\_\_\_\_ features of this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children \_\_\_\_\_ on doors and ask for a small gift. If they don't get anything, they'll play a \_\_\_\_\_ on the person who opens the \_\_\_\_\_. Food also plays a big \_\_\_\_\_ of Halloween. Toffee apples are very popular and so is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a \_\_\_\_\_ topic for Hollywood. Many horror movies have been made about it. Because of this, Halloween is now \_\_\_\_\_ in many countries that never actually celebrate it.

*version*  
*know*  
*originated*  
*dead*  
*name*  
*spread*  
*most*  
*happy*

*common*  
*door*  
*popular*  
*trick*  
*known*  
*easily*  
*knock*  
*part*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st *every / all* year. It originated from a pagan holiday and the Christian holiday of All Saints' Day. The name Halloween is a shortened *vision / version* of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more of a *fan / fun* day for children and has largely lost its religious roots. Halloween is probably most famous in the U.S.A. Irish *immigration / immigrants* took it to America in the mid-1600s and it slowly *spread / spreads* across the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many countries around the world although many people *known / know* about it. Some Christians are not so happy that people celebrate Halloween. They *belief / believe* the holiday is un-Christian because of its *origin / original* as a pagan "festival of the dead."

Halloween has many *easy / easily* identifiable symbols. The colours orange and black are widely used. In *peculiar / particular*, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are common *features / futures* of this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children *knocking / knock* on doors and ask for a small gift. If they don't get anything, they'll play a trick on the *person / people* who opens the door. Food also plays a big part of Halloween. Toffee apples are very *popularity / popular* and so is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a popular *topic / topical* for Hollywood. Many horror movies have been made about it. Because of this, Halloween is now known in many countries that never *actually / actual* celebrate it.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st (1) \_\_\_\_ year. It originated from a pagan holiday and the Christian holiday of All Saints' Day. The name Halloween is a (2) \_\_\_\_ version of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more of a fun day for children and has (3) \_\_\_\_ lost its religious roots. Halloween is probably most famous in the U.S.A. Irish immigrants took it to America in the mid-1600s and it (4) \_\_\_\_ spread across the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many countries around the world (5) \_\_\_\_ many people know about it. Some Christians are not so happy that people celebrate Halloween. They believe the holiday is un-Christian because of its (6) \_\_\_\_ as a pagan "festival of the dead."

Halloween has many (7) \_\_\_\_ identifiable symbols. The colours orange and black are widely used. In particular, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are common (8) \_\_\_\_ of this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children knock on doors and ask for a small gift. If they don't get (9) \_\_\_\_, they'll play a trick on the person who opens the door. Food also plays a big part of Halloween. Toffee apples are very popular and (10) \_\_\_\_ is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a popular (11) \_\_\_\_ for Hollywood. Many horror movies have been made about it. Because of this, Halloween is now known in many countries that never actually (12) \_\_\_\_ it.

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |              |               |                 |                 |
|-----|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) every    | (b) all       | (c) whole       | (d) entire      |
| 2.  | (a) shorts   | (b) shortlist | (c) shorten     | (d) shortened   |
| 3.  | (a) large    | (b) largely   | (c) larger      | (d) largest     |
| 4.  | (a) slowly   | (b) slowed    | (c) slows       | (d) slowish     |
| 5.  | (a) so       | (b) therefore | (c) and         | (d) although    |
| 6.  | (a) original | (b) origins   | (c) origin      | (d) originality |
| 7.  | (a) easy     | (b) ease      | (c) eased       | (d) easily      |
| 8.  | (a) features | (b) futures   | (c) futuristic  | (d) featured    |
| 9.  | (a) nothing  | (b) anything  | (c) thingamajig | (d) thing       |
| 10. | (a) as       | (b) at        | (c) so          | (d) to          |
| 11. | (a) topics   | (b) topical   | (c) topic       | (d) topically   |
| 12. | (a) actual   | (b) actually  | (c) acts        | (d) actuality   |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. Halloween is dbteacrlee on October the 31st
2. a shortened erovisn
3. its religious rtsoo
4. it slowly epsadr
5. because of its ironig
6. latiesfv of the dead

### Paragraph 2

7. easily identifiable mlysob
8. orange nmpsuikp
9. Halloween ticevsiita
10. play a krcit
11. apples are very apprlou
12. rhrroo movies

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) holiday of All Saints' Day. The name Halloween is a shortened version of All Hallows' Eve. Today, it is more
- ( ) for a small gift. If they don't get anything, they'll play a trick on the person who opens the door. Food also plays a big
- ( ) topic for Hollywood. Many horror movies have been made about it. Because
- ( ) of a fun day for children and has largely lost its religious roots. Halloween is probably most famous in the U.S.A. Irish
- ( ) black are widely used. In particular, orange pumpkins and fires and black witches, cats and costumes are common
- ( ) countries around the world although many people know about it. Some Christians are not so
- ( ) part of Halloween. Toffee apples are very popular and so is anything made from pumpkin. Halloween is also a popular
- ( ) happy that people celebrate Halloween. They believe the holiday is un-
- ( ) of this, Halloween is now known in many countries that never actually celebrate it.
- ( **1** ) Halloween is celebrated on October the 31st every year. It originated from a pagan holiday and the Christian
- ( ) immigrants took it to America in the mid-1960s and it slowly spread across the country. Halloween is not celebrated in many
- ( ) features of this day. One of the biggest Halloween activities is trick-or-treating. This is when children knock on doors and ask
- ( ) Christian because of its origin as a pagan "festival of the dead."
- ( ) Halloween has many easily identifiable symbols. The colours orange and

**SCRAMBLED SENTENCES**

**With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.**

1. year every 31st the October on Celebrated.

---

2. for It of day more fun children is a.

---

3. in celebrated not is Halloween countries many.

---

4. happy Christians that are people not celebrate so.

---

5. Christian its holiday - of The un because origin is

---

6. symbols Halloween many identifiable has easily.

---

7. black The are colours widely orange used and.

---

8. gift Children knock on doors and ask for a small.

---

9. plays Halloween a big Food part also of.

---

10. Many made horror about movies it have been.

---

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE HALLOWEEN SURVEY

Write five questions about Halloween in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Halloween . Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Halloween . Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about Halloween . Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.