

# Halloween

October 31 is Halloween. Halloween is not a national holiday, so people go to work. Children go to school. Halloween is a day to dress up and have fun. Children wear many different costumes. Some dress up as witches or ghosts. Other children wear animal costumes. Some dress up as TV characters. Parents make costumes for their children or buy costumes in stores.

Young children wear their costumes to school for class parties. After school, children go from house to house in their neighborhoods. Parents usually go with them. The children ring doorbells and say, "Trick or treat!" The treat is candy, fruit, or money. The child in the picture is trick-or-treating. He is carrying a bag for his treats.

Some adults like to dress up and go to Halloween parties too. But adults don't go from house to house and ask for candy!

*Halloween* means "holy evening." Halloween is the day before a religious day, All Saints' Day. On All Saints' Day, Christians remember dead family and friends. They go to church and to the cemetery.

Many years ago, people in Great Britain were afraid the night before All Saints' Day. They were afraid of bad spirits from dead people. They wanted to scare away the bad spirits, so they painted their faces. They wore their clothes inside out. They cut scary faces in pumpkins and put candles inside. Immigrants from Great Britain brought these Halloween customs to the United States.

Today people are not afraid on Halloween. Halloween is just for fun. People decorate their homes with witches, ghosts, and skeletons. They put scary pumpkins outside their houses. When Halloween is over, children are sad. They look forward to next year and a new costume. Only 364 days until next Halloween!



## UNDERSTANDING NEW WORDS

Take turns reading these pairs of sentences with a partner. Is the meaning of the sentences the same or different? Decide with your partner. Circle SAME or DIFFERENT.

- |   |                                       |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Halloween is a day to <b>dress up</b> and have fun.<br>Halloween is a day to wear costumes.  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> SAME | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 2. Some children dress up as TV <b>characters</b> .<br>Some children dress up as people or animals from TV.   | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 3. Children ring doorbells and say, " <b>Trick or treat!</b> "<br>Children ring doorbells and say, "Give me dinner!"  | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 4. Many years ago on Halloween, people wanted to <b>scare away</b> the bad spirits.<br>Many years ago on Halloween, people wanted to talk to the bad spirits.                             | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 5. Long ago in Great Britain, people wore their clothes <b>inside out</b> on Halloween.<br>Long ago in Great Britain, people wore their clothes with the wrong side showing on Halloween. | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 6. People cut <b>scary</b> faces in pumpkins and put candles inside.<br>People cut happy faces in pumpkins and put candles inside.  | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |
| 7. Children <b>look forward to</b> next Halloween and a new costume.<br>Children wait happily for next Halloween and a new costume.   | <input type="radio"/> SAME            | <input type="radio"/> DIFFERENT |

## UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

### When Is the Holiday?

Fill in the year. Then write the dates for October. Circle Halloween.

October 19 \_\_

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.

### True or False?

Take turns reading these sentences with a partner. Is each sentence true or false? Decide with your partner. Put an X under TRUE or FALSE.

- |  | TRUE  | FALSE                |
|--|-------|----------------------|
| 1. October 13 is Halloween.  | _____ | _____ <b>X</b> _____ |
| 2. Children wear costumes on Halloween.                                | _____ | _____                |
| 3. Parents buy or make costumes for their children.                    | _____ | _____                |
| 4. Some adults wear costumes on Halloween.                             | _____ | _____                |
| 5. Halloween is the day after All Saints' Day.                         | _____ | _____                |
| 6. People go to church on Halloween.                                   | _____ | _____                |
| 7. Many years ago, people in Great Britain were afraid of bad spirits. | _____ | _____                |



### Understanding Sentences with Because

Take turns reading these sentences with a partner. Decide together how to finish each sentence. Cross out the letter of the answer. Then write the letter on the line.

1. Americans celebrate Halloween \_\_\_\_\_  
      c        a. because they want candy.
2. Young children wear costumes \_\_\_\_\_  
    to school \_\_\_\_\_      b. because it is the night  
   before All Saints' Day.
3. Children say, "Trick or treat!" \_\_\_\_\_  
   ~~x~~ because immigrants from  
   Great Britain brought  
   Halloween customs to the  
   U.S.
4. *Halloween* means "holy \_\_\_\_\_  
    evening" \_\_\_\_\_      d. because they wanted to  
   scare away bad spirits.
5. Many years ago, people painted \_\_\_\_\_  
    their faces \_\_\_\_\_      e. because they have class  
   parties.

### BEFORE YOU CONTINUE

- Look at your guesses on page 107. Were you right?
- Now fill in Halloween on the Holiday Chart on page 154.



## TALK ABOUT IT

Most people are afraid of some things. Interview a partner about these ten things. Circle 1, 2, or 3.

Ask: "Are you afraid of *the dark*?"

Answer: "Yes, I'm *very* afraid of the dark."

"I'm *just a little* afraid of the dark."

"No, I'm *not at all* afraid of the dark."

Partner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	1 very afraid of	2 just a little afraid of	3 not at all afraid of
the dark	1	2	3
spiders	1	2	3
snakes	1	2	3
dogs	1	2	3
heights	1	2	3
swimming	1	2	3
flying	1	2	3
crowds	1	2	3
small places	1	2	3
elevators	1	2	3
(something else)	1	2	3
(something else)	1	2	3

Which three things on the chart is your partner most afraid of? Write them on the lines. Then share the answers with the class.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



## WRITE

Read the story and write in the missing words. Look at the words in the box below the story if you need help.

October 31 is Halloween<sub>1</sub>. People decorate their houses with pumpkins, witches, and                     <sub>2</sub>. Children and adults like to wear                     <sub>3</sub>. They dress up and go to                     <sub>4</sub>. Children go from house to house and ring doorbells. They say, "                     <sub>5</sub> or treat!" Halloween is                     <sub>6</sub> for everyone, young and old.

skeletons

parties

fun

Halloween

Trick

costumes





## LET'S SING

On Halloween, many people decorate their stores and houses with pictures of skeletons. This is an old American folk song about skeleton bones.

### Skeleton Bones

With the toe bone connected to the foot bone,  
And the foot bone connected to the ankle bone,  
And the ankle bone connected to the leg bone,  
Oh goodness, they scare!

Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh goodness, they scare!

With the finger bone connected to the hand bone,  
And the hand bone connected to the elbow bone,  
And the elbow bone connected to the shoulder bone,  
Oh goodness, they scare!

Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh those bones, oh those bones, oh those skeleton bones,  
Oh goodness, they scare!

With the hip bone connected to the back bone,  
And the back bone connected to the neck bone,  
And the neck bone connected to the head bone,  
Oh goodness, they scare!

