

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task.

Match the definitions (a-k) with the vocabulary.

Vocabulary	Definition
1. an annual holiday	a. the time of year when the crops are gathered in on a farm
2. haunted house	b. strange and frightening
3. harvest season	c. bad and cruel ghosts
4. to scare	d. a holiday that takes place every year
5. to fool the ghosts	e. building believed to be visited by ghosts
6. a bucket	f. to make sure that grain, fruit, etc. that was grown in one season was not harmed
7. evil spirits	g. to frighten somebody
8. to feast together	h. to cut away some pieces of material to make the front part of the head
9. to carve faces	i. an open container with a handle, used for carrying or holding liquids, sand, etc.
10. to protect crops	j. to celebrate with a lot of people
11. spooky	k. to deceive

Watch the video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_eAKG1paUk

Task 1.

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

annual	fool	movie	scary	crops	spooky
haunted	carve	harvest	gods	character	spirits

1. Halloween is an _____ holiday that takes place every year on October 31st.

2. Halloween is best known as a time of trick-or-treating, dressing up in costume, visiting _____ houses, telling _____ stories and so much more.

3. Halloween originated from the ancient Celtic festival which marked the end of the _____ season.
4. People believed that the festival would make their _____ happy, so that they would protect their families and _____ during the long hard winter
5. People began to wear masks to _____ the ghosts in the believing that they were other _____.
6. Today people have fun dressing up in costumes such as their favorite _____ monster or TV _____.
7. Today people _____ all sorts of silly or _____ faces into pumpkins as decoration.

Task 2.

Answer the questions and tell about the history of Halloween using the phrases.

<p>1. What is Halloween?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• second most popular• celebrate / October 31st• trick-or-treat• dressing up• scary stories• haunted houses	<p>2. Where did the name of "Halloween" come from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Hallows Eve• shortened form of...• the day before All Saints Day
<p>3. What is the History of Halloween?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to originate from• Celtic Festival Samhain• the end of the harvest season• to protect families and crops to feast together	<p>4. What are some Halloween traditions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be scared to meet ghosts• to wear masks / costumes• movie monsters / TV characters• knock on neighbors' doors• candies / tasty treats• keep pumpkins outside• jack o'lanterns• to carve spooky faces

Discussion. Do you celebrate Halloween in your country? How?

Answers.

Preparation task.

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|-----|------|
| 1 d | 6 I |
| 2 e | 7 c |
| 3 a | 8 j |
| 4 g | 9 h |
| 5 k | 10 f |
| | 11 b |

Task 1.

- 1 annual
- 2 haunted, scary
- 3 harvest
- 4 gods, crops
- 5 fool, spirits
- 6 movie, character
- 7 carve, spooky

Transcript.

Halloween is the second most popular holiday in the United States. It is an annual holiday that takes place every year on October 31st. Halloween is best known as a time of trick-or-treating, dressing up in costume, visiting haunted houses, telling scary stories and so much more.

Halloween is said to have originated from the ancient Celtic festival called Samhain which marked the end of the harvest season. They believed that the festival would make their gods happy, so that they would protect their families and crops during the long hard winter that was to come. At the Harvest festival they wore costumes and feasted together.

The name Halloween comes from a shortened form of All Hallow's Eve. Christians traditionally called October 31st All Hallow's Eve. This is because October 31st is the day before All Saints Day or All Hallow's Day. Over the years All Hallow's Eve became widely known as Halloween.

What are some Halloween traditions? Costumes.

A long time ago some people believed that ghosts walk the streets on Halloween night and they were scared to meet them. Those people began to wear masks to fool the ghosts in the believing that they were other spirits. Soon after people started to wear costumes, to go with the masks. Today people have fun dressing up in costumes such as their favorite movie monster or TV character. The more creative the better.

Trick-or-treating. Many years ago people were just afraid of meeting ghosts on Halloween night. They were also terrified that ghost's spirits would come into their homes. They began leaving bowls of food outside their doors to scare the ghosts from entering. Over time people became less fearful of the old ghost stories and started eating the treats themselves. Some people say that was how trick-or-treating began. Today children and teenagers dress up in costumes and knock on neighbors' doors saying "Trick or treat!" Adults pass out candies or other tasty treats which are usually collected in a bucket or bag.

Pumpkins are called Jack o'lanterns. A long time ago people kept Jack o'lanterns outside their homes on Halloween night to scare away evil spirits. Today people carve all sorts of silly or spooky faces into pumpkins as decoration.

Fun fact – in the United States there is a going trend for a second Halloween celebration. Halloween in July is an extra special day for Halloween fans to celebrate the festivities twice in one year.