

Today is Halloween. In America we celebrate Halloween on October 31st.
Label these pictures.



Things people do on Halloween:

1. visit a pumpkin patch
2. carve pumpkins to make jack-o-lanterns
3. roast pumpkin seeds
4. trick or treat
5. give out candy
6. scare people
7. dress in costumes
8. decorate their yards with witches, skeletons, ghosts, monsters, graveyards, bats and spiders

Discuss at your table:

1. List some things you are scared of:
2. Have you been trick or treating? Have your children?
3. Is trick or treating dangerous? Are teenagers too old to trick or treat?
4. Have you ever dressed up in a costume? Describe your costume.
5. Do you believe in ghosts?
6. Do you like to hear ghost stories?
7. Have you ever been to a haunted house?

Read and discuss:



Witches fly on broomsticks, have black cats and make witch's brew in black cauldrons.



In the 1600's some people were accused of being witches. They were burned at the stake. People were very superstitious then. That was a horrible time. Are people in your country superstitious?



Halloween: In the British Isles, people celebrated this holiday for two thousand years. It was a pagan celebration. People believed spirits could travel into our world during Halloween. Sometimes people dressed as spirits to protect themselves. Poor people went door to door begging for food. This is where the idea of trick or treating comes from.

When Christianity came, the church changed this holiday. It became a time to honor the dead. The dead are hallowed (sacred). The church called this holiday All Hallow's Evening. That is how it got the name Halloween. Some cultures call this holiday All Souls Day or All Saints Day.

Many cultures have a holiday to honor the dead. Does your culture? Describe what happens at this time.

Past Continuous Tense: On Monday you studied the past continuous tense. Read these example sentences.

1. When the phone rang, she was writing a letter.
2. We were having a picnic when it started to rain.
3. What were you doing when the earthquake started?
4. At midnight, we were driving through the desert.
5. Yesterday at this time we were celebrating my birthday.
6. I was studying while Mother was making dinner.
7. I hated sitting next to Gloria. She was always talking. It annoyed everyone near her.

Use the sentences above as models to make sentences of your own. Read them to the class. The first one is done for you.

carve: We were carving a pumpkin when the doorbell rang.

eat:

wear:

decorate:

wait:

catch:

listen: