

Culture Corner

Halloween

• Listening



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 (12) ____ celebrate it.

1. Listen to the audio file and put the correct words from this table into the article.

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|-----|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 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) many things | (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 |

• Vocabulary

2. Match the names and the pictures. There's one picture that doesn't correspond to the Halloween holiday, do you know which one is it?



bat
black cat
broom
candy
cauldron
chestnuts
cobweb
costumes
ghost
haunted house

jack o'lantern
monster
owl
pumpkin
scarecrow
skeleton
spider
tombstone
vampire
witch
