

Part 3

Read the text below and answer questions 17 – 24.

HALLOWEEN

History of Halloween:

Halloween is celebrated on the 31st of October. Halloween is very popular holiday in many countries, especially in the United States. However, the Halloween traditions come from Ireland.

The tradition of Halloween comes from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Samhain was the Celtic New Year and it was the end of summer and harvest time. The Celtic New Year was on the 1st of November. People believed that the 31st of October was “All Hallows Eve”, when evil spirits returned to earth for a day. So, they dressed up in costumes and made noise in the streets to make the spirits go away. Over time, All Hallows Eve was shortened to Halloween. It also goes by another name, the Day of the Dead.

Traditions of Halloween:

The main tradition of Halloween is to dress up in a costume. Some people wear scary costumes like ghosts, witches, skeletons, vampires, mummies, zombies or monsters. Other people prefer funny costumes like superheroes, ballerinas, cowboys, pirates, princesses, animals or cartoons.

Children go from door to door in their neighbourhood to ask for treats such as sweets, lollipops or chocolates saying “Trick or Treat”. If someone answers trick, children can make a mischief on the owner of the house or his/her property.

Another tradition is pumpkin carving. Pumpkins are big vegetables that get an orange colour when they are ready to eat. When someone carves a pumpkin, they cut the top of it and remove all the seeds and flesh from the inside. Then they carve a face on the pumpkin. It is traditional to carve your pumpkin into a scary face. Then when it is dark, you put a candle or light inside the pumpkin so the light shines out of the frightening face.

The final tradition is decorating your house. Pumpkins are used to decorate your house. You would put them in a window or on the front porch so people in the street can see them. The decorations have become much better over the years. Now people decorate their houses as if they are a haunted house. They make skeletons to place in the garden or tombstones outside the house. They also make lots of spider webs as decorations. People from the house try to make it look as scary as possible.



Questions 17 – 24*Complete the following table.***Choose no more than three words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.*For each question, write your answer in the space provided on your answer sheet.*

HALLOWEEN	
Celebrated on:	_____ (17)
Originally started in:	_____ (18)
Other names:	• _____ (19) • the Day _____ (20)
Traditions	• Dress up _____ (21) • _____ (22) • _____ (23)
Famous Phrase by children:	_____ (24)

No.	Write your answer
17	
18	
19	
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