

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

READING

What is Halloween?

Vocabulary Preview

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|
| 1. traditional | <u>E</u> | A. an imaginary animal that is large and scary |
| 2. celebration | _____ | B. something that you wear over your face to hide it |
| 3. nowadays | _____ | C. a special day with special activities |
| 4. monster | _____ | D. a large round orange vegetable with thick skin |
| 5. mask | _____ | E. beliefs or customs that have not changed for a long time |
| 6. make-up | _____ | F. colors used on your skin to change the way you look |
| 7. pumpkin | _____ | G. recently (especially compared with the past) |
| 8. pray for | _____ | H. to ask God for something |

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Change the forms of verbs and nouns when necessary.

1. Have you ever tasted pumpkin pie? It's delicious.
2. Most Hollywood actors use _____ on their face.
3. I love to watch horror movies with lots of scary _____!
4. Farmers sometimes _____ rain so that their crops will grow.
5. Independence Day is a national _____.
6. Bank robbers usually wear a _____ when they rob a bank.
7. _____, the climate is getting hotter and hotter in many places.
8. Shaking hands is a _____ way to greet someone new.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. _____
2. _____

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Grammar Practice

What is Halloween?

If you're new to the United States, Canada, or maybe a few other countries, you may be asking yourself, "What exactly is Halloween?" Well, here's the answer! Halloween is a traditional celebration that first (1)_____ in Europe many hundreds of years ago, perhaps even thousands of years ago. (2)_____ that time, some people (3)_____ that ghosts of dead people visited (4)_____ people. Nowadays, it is a special day (5)_____ several countries around the world, but it is perhaps most popular in the United States and Canada. It is always (6)_____ the same date every year: October 31. Although it is a special day, it is not a holiday. People must still go to school and to work on this day (unless it is on a Saturday or a Sunday). Around this time, people like to tell (7)_____ stories and watch horror movies. In the evening on October 31, children wear costumes. Costumes are clothes that make people look like animals, monsters or other interesting people. They (8)_____ very funny, or they might be quite scary. The costumes often include (9)_____ face mask, or some make-up painted on the person's face. So, for example, on Halloween you (10)_____ see a dinosaur, or an elephant, a witch with a tall black hat, a ghost, or maybe even a famous person like a (11)_____. Young children often go from house to house and ask for candy by saying, "Trick or treat?" Many older kids and adults also put on costumes, and then they (12)_____ to Halloween parties.

1.

- (A) begin
- (B) begun
- (C) began

2.

- (A) At
- (B) On
- (C) In

3.

- (A) believe
- (B) believed
- (C) believing

4.

- (A) living
- (B) lives
- (C) lived

5.

- (A) at
- (B) on
- (C) in

6.

- (A) in
- (B) on
- (C) to

7.

- (A) scare
- (B) scared
- (C) scary

8.

- (A) might be
- (B) might
- (C) may

9.

- (A) an
- (B) a
- (C) the

10.

- (A) might be
- (B) might
- (C) are might

11.

- (A) movie starring
- (B) movie's star
- (C) movie star

12.

- (A) go
- (B) went
- (C) have gone

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How Much Do You Understand?

- **Complete the statements.**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Halloween first began | A. believed ghosts visited living people. |
| 2. People at that time | B. on October 31 every year. |
| 3. Halloween is celebrated | C. and ask you for candy. |
| 4. Both children and adults like | D. to wear costumes on Halloween. |
| 5. You might even see a dog | E. in Europe a very long time ago. |
| 6. Children might go to your home | F. that is dressed like a hot dog. |

Discuss

- **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. Discuss any similar traditional celebrations you might have in your country.
2. Do you believe in ghosts? Why? / Why not?
3. Do you enjoy watching horror movies? Why? / Why not?
4. Did you do anything special for Halloween last year? Are you going to do anything special for Halloween this year? What?

Write and Talk About It

- **Write the names of three scary stories or movies that you know about? Then discuss: Which of these is the scariest (in your opinion)? Why?**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____