

Name: _____

Date: _____

WITCHES RIDE ON HALLOWEEN

Witches ride on Halloween

Oh – Oh – Oh

Their cloaks are black, their eyes are green

Ho – ho – ho

Every witch has a tall black hat

Oh – Oh – Oh

And every witch has a big black cat

Ho – ho – ho



ACME CHEMICALS PLC
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The History of



The name Halloween comes from the phrase "a hallowed (or holy) evening". Many customs at Halloween date back to ancient times when people believed in magic and superstition.

In ancient Ireland, people believed that the dead could return to earth as witches, ghosts, black cats or as other strange phantoms. These creatures performed all sorts of wicked mischief. They were creatures of the night. Any kind of light could protect the people. They made special lanterns, which they placed in windows and in front of doors to keep evil spirits away. Over the years these lanterns were made of hollowed-out pumpkins with a scary face carved on one side and a candle placed in the centre. These pumpkin lanterns are known as "Jack o' Lanterns."



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Halloween superstition was taken along to America in the nineteenth century and has been turned into a creative seasonal celebration in the meantime. Children dress up as ghosts and witches. In the evening of October 31st they run from house to house calling out "trick or treat".



Neighbours give them candy ("treats") but if they don't children may play a "trick" on them. The trick could be dusting flour on doorsteps or making a lot of noise in front of windows. Adults also dress up and go to costume parties where they win prizes for the best or scariest costume.

People decorate their houses with cut-outs of ghosts, witches, skeletons and spider webs as well as beautifully carved pumpkins. Stores sell all sorts of typical Halloween goods in orange and black. You can also buy pumpkin pies, pumpkin cookies and even pumpkin ice cream!

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I. Words

Find the words in a dictionary.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>custom</i> | | <i>date back to</i> | |
| <i>superstition</i> | | <i>skeleton</i> | |
| <i>in ancient times</i> | | <i>strange</i> | |
| <i>creature</i> | | <i>mischief</i> | |
| <i>wicked</i> | | <i>scary</i> | |
| <i>fairy</i> | | <i>evil</i> | |
| <i>carve out</i> | | <i>holy</i> | |
| <i>creative</i> | | <i>seasonal celebration</i> | |
| <i>costume</i> | | <i>witch</i> | |
| <i>candy</i> | | <i>store</i> | |
| <i>prize</i> | | <i>cut-out</i> | |

Name: _____

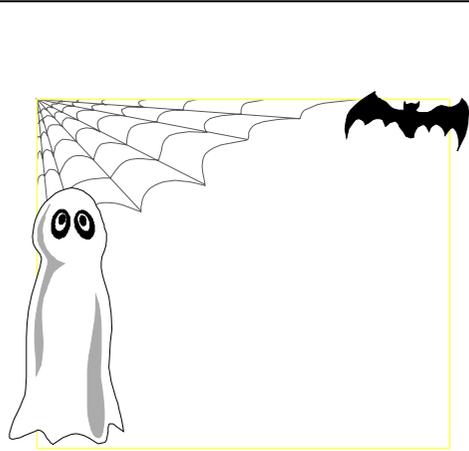
Date: _____

I. Words (key)

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>custom</i> | <i>Brauch, Gewohnheit</i> | <i>date back to</i> | <i>zurück gehen auf</i> |
| <i>superstition</i> | <i>Aberglaube</i> | <i>skeleton</i> | <i>Skelett, Gerippe</i> |
| <i>ancient</i> | <i>im Altertum, vor langer Zeit</i> | <i>strange</i> | <i>ungewöhnlich, fremd</i> |
| <i>creature</i> | <i>Geschöpf, Kreatur</i> | <i>mischief</i> | <i>Unsinn, Unfug</i> |
| <i>wicked</i> | <i>gemein, böse</i> | <i>scary</i> | <i>furchterregend</i> |
| <i>fairy</i> | <i>Fee</i> | <i>evil</i> | <i>das Böse, böse, schlecht</i> |
| <i>carve out</i> | <i>aushöhlen, ausschneiden</i> | <i>holy</i> | <i>heilig</i> |
| <i>creative</i> | <i>schöpferisch, kreativ</i> | <i>seasonal celebration</i> | <i>Jahreszeitenfest</i> |
| <i>costume</i> | <i>Kostüm</i> | <i>witch</i> | <i>Hexe</i> |
| <i>candy</i> | <i>Süßigkeit, Bonbon (US)</i> | <i>store</i> | <i>Geschäft, Warenhaus</i> |
| <i>prize</i> | <i>Preis, Gewinn</i> | <i>cut-out</i> | <i>Ausschneidefigur</i> |

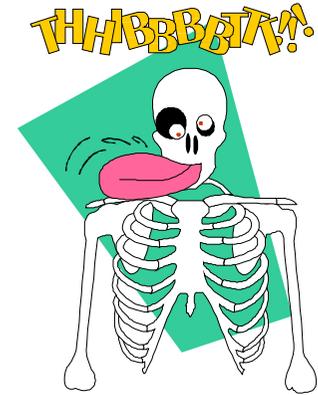
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spider web
with a
bat

skeleton



ghost

Jack o'
Lantern



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II. Grammar

Comparative or superlative? Fill in the right form.

scary - frightening - exciting - ugly - colourful - delicious

1. Who has the _____ costume?

2. Witches are _____ than ghosts.

3. Pumpkin cookies are _____ than pumpkin ice cream.

4. Halloween is the _____ celebration of the year.

5. Those are the _____ Halloween cookies I've ever seen!

6. A glowing skeleton is _____ than a Jack o' Lantern.

Name: _____

Date: _____

II. Grammar (key)

Comparative or superlative? Choose the right form.

scary - frightening - exciting - ugly - colourful - delicious

1. Who has the *most colourful* costume?

2. Witches are *uglier* than ghosts.

3. Pumpkin cookies are *more exciting* than pumpkin ice cream.

4. Halloween is the *most frightening* celebration of the year.

5. Those are the *most delicious* Halloween cookies I've ever seen!

6. A glowing skelton is *more scary* than a Jack o' Lantern.

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III. Quiz

Tick the correct answer/s. (✓)

1. What is a treat?
 - a. a trick you play
 - b. a costume
 - c. a candy or a snack
 - d. a make-up

2. What is a "Jack o' Lantern" made of?
 - a. child
 - b. saint
 - c. fairy
 - d. pumpkin

3. What is a seasonal celebration?
 - a. Halloween
 - b. Monday
 - c. July
 - d. Christmas

4. What do you need for a cut-out?
 - a. a glue
 - b. a pair of scissors
 - c. a book
 - d. a school bag

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IV. Questions

Can you answer them correctly in whole sentences?

1. What was November 1st for the Celts in ancient Ireland?

2. What is the night before that day called?

3. How do people celebrate this holiday in the US?

4. What do children do in the streets in that evening?

5. When were Halloween superstitions taken along to America?

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IV. Questions (key)

Can you answer them correctly in whole sentences?

1. What was November 1st for the Celts in ancient Ireland?

It was a holiday to remember the dead.

2. What is the night before that day called?

That night is called Halloween.

3. How do people celebrate this holiday in the US?

They dress in costumes and attend costume parties.

4. What do children do in the streets in that evening?

They go for a "trick or treat".

5. When were Halloween superstitions taken along to America?

Halloween superstitions were taken along to America in the nineteenth century.