A HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

**Where did Halloween come from?**

1. *Watch the video and complete the missing words in the sentences below.*

Video link: <https://youtu.be/dHQZErtwA3E>

1. When most people think of Halloween they think of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and other family-friendly activities.
2. It all goes back some \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years to the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain celebrated on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. On the night before Samhain, people believed that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ returned as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. They would leave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on their doorstep to keep roaming spirits at bay or wore \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so that they would be mistaken for fellow ghosts.
5. The Christian church turned Samhain into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or All Hallows in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ century.
6. The night before became All Hallow’s Eve later shortened to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. You’ve heard of trick-or-treating on Halloween, but what about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. All of these traditions originated in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
9. On All Souls’ Day, the needy would beg for pastries known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In return they would pray for people’s dead relatives.
10. In the medieval Halloween tradition of guising, young people would dress up in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and accept \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and other offerings in exchange for singing, reciting poetry or telling jokes.
11. In 19th century America Irish and Scottish immigrants revived these old traditions. The result was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
12. At first it was much more about the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the form of pranks and hijinks, then the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
13. It wasn’t until the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s that the custom took on its current family-friendly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ form.
14. Today Halloween is big \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with U.S. consumers spending more than 2.5 billion on costumes annually. Add in the candy, and it’s estimated that Americans spend up to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on Halloween each year, making it the second most commercial holiday after \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. *Read again the notes above and answer these questions.*
16. What was *Samhain*?
17. Where does the name *Halloween* come from?
18. Who brought the tradition of Halloween to the States?

**Speaking**

*Have you got a similar festival in your country? When and how is it celebrated?*

**Spooky Cloze**

**Glossary:**

**in sheets** *– in large quantities*

**to loom** – *to appear large and threatening*

**menacingly** – *threateningly*

**gloom** – *darkness*

**messing around** – *playing, joking*

**to scowl** – *to show anger or displeasure in your facial expression*

**to blaze** – *to shine*

**fiery** *– bright red, like fire*

**bloodcurdling** *– causing a feeling of extreme fear*

***hurl*** *– throw sth with great force, in an angry or violent way*

**shriek** ‐ *scream*

*Complete the story with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.*

It was a dark and stormy night, just after midnight. The cold rain 1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (come) down in sheets and every time the lightning 2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (flash), silhouettes of the bare trees 3\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (loom) menacingly overhead.

Earlier in the evening, Ron and his five friends 4\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (collect) a bag of candy and were looking forward to a sweet feast. As they were jumping over the locked fence and 5\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (run) through the muddy schoolyard on their way to the forbidding gloom of the old, abandoned school, they suddenly 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (remember) stories of the ghost teacher. “We shouldn’t go in!” Ron 7\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (shout), but the others 8\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (not stop), so he had to follow.

They 9\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (find) an empty classroom. It was so cold that the boys could see their breath hanging in the air like ghosts. Using pieces of the old wooden desks for firewood, they 10\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (build) a fire, then put on some loud music and started messing around, throwing chalk, yelling, drawing rude pictures on the board and singing. They 11\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (not notice) that a dark, menacing form 12\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (appear) slowly out of the shadows. It was the ghost teacher! He 13\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (scowl) and his eyes were blazing with a fiery light. He let out a bloodcurdling shriek as he hurled himself at the boys. Screaming at the top of their lungs, the boys 14\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (run) out of the building leaving everything behind. They never went there again.

***Nouns:***

alley

apparition

bat

castle

cemetery

churchyard

evening

expression

forest

house

moon

moonlight

night

road

ruins

scream

shadow

shriek

sound

spectre

**Scary collocations**

*Make spooky collocations with nouns and adjectives. Use the nouns in the box or add your own. Choose one of each and write a short descriptive paragraph or story. Underline the collocations.*

***Adjectives:*** mysterious haunted dark gloomy spooky

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**Example story:**

It was a gloomy night in the haunted forest. The moonlight made dark shadows in the trees. As I walked, I heard a mysterious sound, then I saw a spooky house ahead of me on the path…