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Halloween Worksheet

1 Match the definition to a Halloween word.

а	special clothes to look like someone/something else	i	vampire
b	a large orange vegetable	ii	werewolf
С	a woman with magical powers	iii	skeleton
d	In stories, a person who changes into a wolf at full moon	iv	pumpkin
е	In stories, a person who drinks blood	٧	bat
f	a small black animal which flies at night	vi	costume
g	a small animal with eight legs	vii	candle
h	the bones of a person or animal's body	viii	trick or treat
i	a large, outside fire	ix	creature
j	made of wax and string, it burns slowly	X	bonfire
k	tradition of children wearing costumes, visiting homes	xi	witch
	and asking for sweets		
1	any living animal or person	xii	spider

2 Which group?

Put the words below under the different group headings.

Food	Creature	Place	

werewolf	zombie	cat	bat
toffee apple	vampire	graveyard	spider
ghost	cave	castle	sweets
pumpkin	black	witch	haunted house

Author: Louise Delahay Page 1 of 1

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Halloween Worksheet Key

1	
а	vi
b	iv
С	хi
d	ii
е	i
f	٧
g	xii
h	iii
i	Х
j	vii
k	viii
1	iy

2

Food	Creature	Place
sweets	ghost	cave
pumpkin	werewolf	castle
toffee apple	black cat vampire zombie witch spider bat	haunted house graveyard

Author: Louise Delahay Page 1 of 1

1. Work with a partner. Label the pictures with the words from the box.

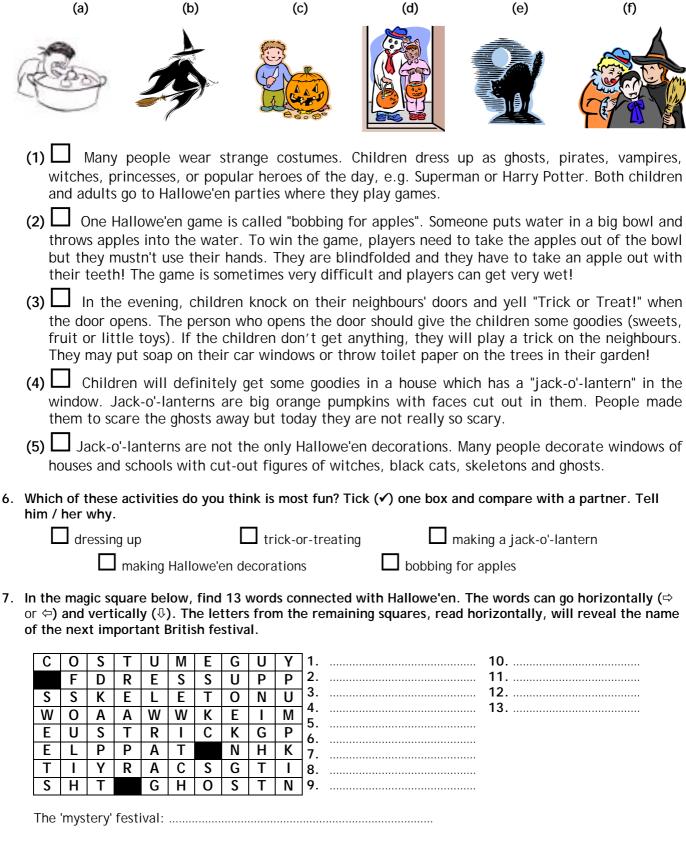
		witch /wɪʧ/	ghost /gəʊst/	skeleton	pumpkin /ˈpʌmpkɪn/	costume /ˈkɒstjʊm	1/
(a) .		(b)	(1)	(c)	(d)	(e)	
2.	your par	tner.	festivals are the	e above ass Thanksgiv	ociated with? Tick the		Compare with
3.		•	See if you can ar	•	uestions below. Tick	(✓) the appropriate	box.
			es. \square Ireland.			Rem	nember!
		· _	ke ghosts or wito	_	to live longer.	We read:	30th October the thirtieth
		e celebrate Ha O th October.	Illowe'en on 31st Octobe	er. 🔲 1 st	November.		<u>of</u> October
4	Read the	text below to	see whether v	ou were rid	ht Change any wron	n answers voll dave	

text below to see whether you were right. Change any wrong answers you gave.

A long time ago, the Celts (who lived in Ireland, Scotland and Wales) celebrated the new year on 1st November, and the night before that, 31st October, was the eve of the Celtic new year, called "All Hallows' Eve". The Celts believed that souls of dead people came back to the earth during that night to find a new body for themselves. Of course, no one wanted a ghost to live in his body, so people dressed up to look like the souls of the dead. When Christianity came to Ireland, people no longer celebrated the new year on 1st November but they didn't stop the tradition of dressing up as ghosts. When millions of Irish people immigrated to the United States in the 1840s, the tradition came with them. These days, on 31st October every year, people in the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada celebrate Hallowe'en. It is a celebration mostly for children, although more and more adults celebrate Hallowe'en as well.

- (a) What do you know about Hallowe'en?
- **(b)** Is Hallowe'en popular in Poland?
- 5. What do people do during Hallowe'en? Read the text below and match the pictures (a) (f) to the paragraphs (1) - (5). Write the letters in the boxes. There is one extra picture which you do not need to use. Then compare your answers with a partner.





8. Maybe you could organise a little Hallowe'en party at your school or class? You could have a costume party and play bobbing for apples. Maybe you could even tell a scary ghost story?

1. What famous festival are the following associated with? Label the pictures with the words from the box.

bobbing for apples treat-or-tricking witch skull ghost jack-o'-lantern













- 2. Read the sentences and match the <u>underlined</u> words with their explanations (a) (x). Write the letter in the box next to the sentence. Think of the Polish equivalents of the underlined words. Compare your ideas with your partner.
 - Many Christmas traditions <u>originated</u> in Germany.
 - On the eve of the election, nobody knows who will win. We'll have to wait until tomorrow.
 - \square My ancestors came to the USA from Ireland in the 1850s.
 - Every year, the older kids play pranks on new students.
 - In some villages in Poland, people still don't have toilets at home, only <u>outhouses</u> in their yards.
 - Divination is the ability to say what will happen in the future.
 - (a) a trick, especially one which is played on someone to make them look silly
 - (b) the night or day before an important day
 - (c) telling somebody's fortune
 - (d) a member of your family who lived a long time ago
 - (e) to come from a particular place or start in a particular situation
 - (f) a small building over a hole in the ground that is used as a toilet, in a camping area or, in the past, behind a house
- 3. You're Student A. The text below is incomplete: your partner (Student B) has the information you need. Work with another student A and prepare questions to ask student B to help you complete the text. Student B will then ask you some questions about the information you have in your text. After you have both completed the texts, compare your worksheets.

Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en is celebrated annually on (1) ______ . The festival is especially popular among children in countries such as (2) the United States and Canada, but it is also celebrated in some other countries, e.g. the United Kingdom, although definitely not with the same splendour and media coverage.

Hallowe'en is a night above all others when supernatural forces prevail. But just how did this peculiar custom originate? Why do we bob for apples, carve pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns, and tell ghost stories on this night? Why do children go door-to-door asking for sweets, dressed in fantastical costumes?

The word itself, *Hallowe'en*, has its origins in the Catholic Church. It comes from (3) _______, a day before November 1st, which is a day during which Catholics honour the dead and the saints. The festival as such, however, like some other famous celebrations, has its origins in both pre-Christian and Christian customs. For the Celts /kelts/, ancestors of the present-day Irish, Welsh and Scottish people, 31st October was (4) the eve of the new year. In Scotland, the Gaelic word "Samhain" (pronounced solvein) means literally "summer's end". One story says that, on that day, the spirits of all those who had died throughout the preceding year (5) ______. The still-living dressed up in all manner of ghoulish costumes in order to (6) cheat spirits looking for bodies to possess. Of course, nobody believes in spirit

role. Children and teenagers enjoy costume dances at their school, and the more outrageous the costume the better! But Hallowe'en is much more than just costumes: there would be no Hallowe'en without the traditional treator-tricking! On this night, dozens of children knock on their neighbours' doors and yell, "Trick or treat!" when the door opens. The person who opens the door should (7) _____. If they don't, the kids will play a trick on them. In the old days, some favourite pranks in New England included tipping over outhouses and unhinging fence gates. Nowadays, the repertoire of tricks includes soaping car windows and covering garden trees with (8) toilet paper. Trick-or-treating probably originated with a ninth-century European custom . On 2nd November, early Christians used to walk from village to village begging for "soul cakes", made out of square pieces of bread with currants. In return for the cakes, the beggars promised (10) to say prayers on behalf of the dead relatives of the donors to help their souls get to heaven. Today the cakes have been replaced with sweets, fruit or little toys. Because Hallowe'en originated as a celebration connected with evil spirits, witches, ghosts, goblins and skeletons have all become symbols of the festival. Another easily recognisable symbol of Hallowe'en is a jack-o'-lantern: a hollowed pumpkin with a face carved in it, made into a lantern. The name comes from an old Irish tale. Jack was a man who could enter neither heaven nor hell. They didn't want him in heaven _, and they didn't want him in hell because (12) he had tricked the devil on several $(11)_{-}$ occasions. However, the devil gave him (13) _____ to help him find his way in the purgatory. Jack put it (14) into a turnip and made a lantern to light his way. The Irish made those to represent the souls of the dead on Hallowe'en but when they moved to America in the 1840s, they had to replace the vegetable with pumpkins, which were easier to get. Owing to its magical powers, Hallowe'en is also a festival during which divination of the future is also commonly practised. Certain traditions, such as bobbing for apples, roasting nuts in the fire, and baking cakes which contain tokens of luck, are actually ancient methods of telling fortunes. Just like Christmas, modern Hallowe'en has become highly commercialised. Shops all over the USA and Canada sell Hallowe'en postcards, Hallowe'en costumes, and Hallowe'en T-shirts. Some dangerous incidents also occur during Hallowe'en and that is why some people are much less fond of the festival than they used to be. 7. 9. 11. 4. Find in the text as many words associated with Hallowe'en as you can. Write them in the box below and compare your list with your partner.

possession now, and the practice of dressing up like goblins, ghosts, and witches took on a more ceremonial

5. * Many people in Britain and the USA, including the police, do not like Hallowe'en. What reasons do you think they give? What do *you* think?

* Do you think Hallowe'en could become popular in Poland? Why / Why not?



6.	There are quite a lot of jokes connected with Hallowe'en. In some of them the humour results from the
	fact that some words are pronounced in the same way although they are spelt differently. Here's an
	example:

Question: Why did Dracula take cold medicine?

Answer: To stop his coffin.

The word *coffin*, which means 'trumna' in Polish, is pronounced more or less the same as the word *coughing*, which means 'kaszleć' in Polish.

Make two-line jokes by matching a question from column A with an answer from column B. The humour in some of them will be of the kind shown above.

	Column A	Column B
1.	What do you call a witch who lives at the beach?	
2.	Why didn't the skeleton dance at the Hallowe'en party? \Box	
3.	What are ghosts' favourite kind of streets? \Box	a. A mummy and deady.
4.	What happens when two vampires meet? \Box	b. A cereal killer.c. A grave problem.
5.	What do you call a little monster's parents? \Box	d. Dead ends.e. It's a pain in the neck.
6.	What's it like to be kissed by a vampire? \Box	f. He had nobody to dance with. g. A sand-witch.
7.	What's it called when a vampire has trouble with his house? \Box	h. Spelling. i. It's love at first bite.
8.	What is a witch's favourite subject at school? \Box	j. He had no guts.
9.	What do you call a monster who poisons corn flakes? \Box	
10.	. Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?	

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 - (e) to come from a particular place or start in a particular situation
 - (f) a small building over a hole in the ground that is used as a toilet, in a camping area or, in the past, behind a house
- 3. You're Student B. The text below is incomplete: your partner (Student A) has the information you need. Work with another student B and prepare questions to ask student A to help you complete the text. Student A will first ask you some questions about the information you have in your text. After you have both completed the texts, compare your worksheets.

Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en is celebrated annually on (1) $\underline{31^{st} \ October}$. The festival is especially popular among children in countries such as (2) ______, but it is also celebrated in some other countries, e.g. the United Kingdom, although definitely not with the same splendour and media coverage.

Hallowe'en is a night above all others when supernatural forces prevail. But just how did this peculiar custom originate? Why do we bob for apples, carve pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns, and tell ghost stories on this night? Why do children go door-to-door asking for candy, dressed in fantastical costumes?

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believes in spirit possession now, and the practice of dressing up like goblins, ghosts, and witches took on a more ceremonial role. Children and teenagers enjoy costume dances at their school, and the more outrageous the costume the better! But Hallowe'en is much more than just costumes: there would be no Hallowe'en without the traditional treator-tricking! On this night, dozens of children knock on their neighbours' doors and yell, "Trick or treat!" when the door opens. The person who opens the door should (7) present the children with some goodies. If they don't, the kids will play a trick on them. In the old days, some favourite pranks in New England included tipping over outhouses and unhinging fence gates. Nowadays, the repertoire of tricks includes soaping car windows and covering garden trees with (8) ______. Trick-or-treating probably originated with a ninth-century European custom called (9) <u>"souling"</u>. On 2nd November, early Christians used to walk from village to village begging for "soul cakes", made out of square pieces of bread with currants. In return for the cakes, the beggars promised (10) _____ to help their souls get to heaven. Today the cakes have been replaced with sweets, fruit or little toys. Because Hallowe'en originated as a celebration connected with evil spirits, witches, ghosts, goblins and skeletons have all become symbols of the festival. Another easily recognisable symbol of Hallowe'en is a jack-o'-lantern: a hollowed pumpkin with a face carved in it made into a lantern. The name comes from an old Irish tale. Jack was a man who could enter neither heaven nor hell. They didn't want him in heaven (11) because he was a notorious drunkard, and they didn't want him in hell because (12) However, the devil gave him (13) a piece of coal to help him find his way in the purgatory. Jack put it into a turnip and made (14) ______ to light his way. The Irish made those to represent the souls of the dead on Hallowe'en but when they moved to America in the 1840s, they had to replace turnips with pumpkins, which were easier to get. Owing to its magical powers, Hallowe'en is also a festival during which divination of the future is also commonly practised. Certain traditions, such as bobbing for apples, roasting nuts in the fire, and baking cakes which contain tokens of luck, are actually ancient methods of telling fortunes. Just like Christmas, modern Hallowe'en has become highly commercialised. Shops all over the USA and Canada sell Hallowe'en postcards, Hallowe'en costumes, and Hallowe'en T-shirts. Some dangerous incidents also occur during Hallowe'en and that is why some people are much less fond of the festival than they used to be. 8. 10. 12. 14. 4. Find in the text as many words associated with Hallowe'en as you can. Write them in the box below and compare your list with your partner.

5. * Many people in Britain and the USA, including the police, do not like Hallowe'en. What reasons do you think they give? What do *you* think?

* Do you think Hallowe'en could become popular in Poland? Why / Why not?



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10.	. Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?	

Hallowe'en, 31st October

Elementary: Teacher's Notes

- Ex. 1: (a) skeleton (b) ghost (c) witch (d) costume (e) pumpkin
- Ex. 2: Hallowe'en
- Ex. 3: (a) The first people to have a festival similar to Hallowe'en lived in \square Ireland.
 - **(b)** People dressed up like ghosts or witches **☑** to cheat evil spirits.
 - (c) People celebrate Hallowe'en on **☑** 31st October.
- **Ex. 4**: Ask students to read the text individually and check any wrong answers they gave to questions in exercise 3. Then have a very short discussion on questions (a) and (b), inviting students to give their personal reaction to the problem. You may first put students into buzz groups of 3 or 4 to think of the answer to question (b).
- Ex. 5: 1f 2a 3d 4c 5b
- Ex. 6: (students' personal reactions)
- Ex. 7:

С	0	S	Т	U	M	Ε	G	U	Υ	1. costume 9. soul
	F	D	R	Е	S	S	U	Р	Р	dress uptreat
S	S	K	Ε	L	E	Т	0	N	U	3. skeleton 11. witch
W	0	Α	Α	W	W	Κ	Ε	I	M	4. trick 12. night
Ε	U	S	Т	R	I	С	K	G	Р	5. apple 13. pumpkin
E	L	Р	Р	Α	Т		N	Н	K	6. scary
Т	Ι	Υ	R	Α	С	S	G	Т	I	7. ghost
S	Н	Т		G	Н	0	S	Т	N	8. sweets

The mysterious festival is **Guy Fawkes' Night**, for which you will find a worksheet on the Longman website.

You can ask students to write sentences of their own with the words from exercise 7. They can leave the spaces for the words blank and give the sentences for their partners to complete. They can also dictate their sentences to their partners with the blanks for them to complete.

Hallowe'en, 31st October

Intermediate: Teacher's Notes

- Ex. 1: jack-o'-lantern; ghost; skull; witch; treat-or-tricking; bobbing for apples
- Ex. 2: originated e; eve b; ancestors d; pranks a; outhouses f; divination c

Ex. 3:

- (a) Divide the class into group A and group B. Give one copy of worksheet A to each student in group A and one copy of worksheet B to each student in group B.
- **(b)** Tell your students they are going to read about Hallowe'en. They have the same text, but there is some information missing from each worksheet. Explain that they are going to ask a member of the other group some questions to help them complete the text, but first they need to prepare the questions.
- (c) Ask the students to work together to prepare and write down the questions they need to ask to complete the text.
- (d) When all the students have prepared their questions, ask a student from Group A to work with a student from Group B. They should take it in turns to ask and answer the questions they have prepared and write the answer in the space in their text.
- (e) When both students have finished asking and answering, allow them to compare worksheets.
- (f) Check answers in open class.

Suggested questions:

- 1. When is Hallowe'en celebrated?
- 2. Where / In what countries is Hallowe'en celebrated?
- **3**. Where does the name Hallowe'en come from?
- 4. What was 31st October for the Celts? / Why was 31st October a special day for the Celts?
- 5. What did the spirits do on 31st October?
- **6.** Why did people dress up in costumes?
- 7. What should the person who opens the door do when s/he sees children treat-or-tricking?
- 8. What are trees covered with as a prank?
- **9.** What was the name of the custom from which treat-or-tricking originated? / What was the custom from which treat-or-tricking originated called?
- 10. What did the beggars promise to do in return for the soul cakes?
- 11. Why wasn't Jack welcome in heaven? / Why couldn't Jack enter heaven?

- 12. Why wasn't Jack welcome in hell? / Why couldn't Jack enter hell?
- 13. What did the devil give him / Jack?
- **14**. Where did he put the lump of coal?
- **Ex. 4:** (students' own answers). You can ask students to write sentences of their own with the words from exercise 4. They can leave the spaces for the words blank and give the sentences for their partners to complete. They can also dictate their sentences to their partners with the blanks for them to complete.
- Ex. 5: Before a whole class discussion, you may first wish to put students into buzz groups of 3 or 4 to think of the answer to the two questions. Encourage students to give their own opinions on the issues.
- Ex. 6: 1g 2f 3d 4i 5a 6e 7c 8h 9b 10j

FESTIVAL WORKSHEETS

Halloween Elementary

①—Do you know many Halloween words? Try to build 7 words using these bricks.

				WIT-		-RY		-LE		1.	
	GHO-		APP-		-AT		•		-ST	2.	•••••
SCA-		•		•			-ET			3.	•••••
		TRI-				•		-CK		4. 5	•••••
	TRE-			SWE-		-CH	•			5. 6.	
										7.	

②—Read this text about trick-or-treating and complete **words in bold** with missing letters. Each ◆ stands for one consonant (e.g. K, P) and each ❖ stands for a missing vowel (e.g. A, U).

A Halloween scene

Mrs. Brown dropped a candy bar into each child's bag. One boy was wearing a big hat, a plaid shirt, blue **(5)** $\mathbf{j} \diamond \diamond \diamond \diamond \mathbf{s}$, and high boots. The holster on his belt had a toy **(6)** $\mathbf{g} \diamond \mathbf{n}$ in it. Mrs. Brown asked him, "Who are you?"

"I'm a cowboy," he (7) $a \diamondsuit \diamondsuit \diamondsuit \diamondsuit \diamondsuit d$.

"And I'm a ghost," shouted the child next to him, hidden under a white (8) $s \Leftrightarrow t$.

"And I'm a skeleton," said the third child. The "skeleton" was wearing a black shirt and black pants with strips of **(9)** $\mathbf{w} \diamondsuit \diamondsuit \mathbf{e}$ tape on them.

"Thanks for the candy," shouted the children as they ran off to (10) $\mathbf{r} \diamondsuit \mathbf{q}$ another doorbell.

"You're welcome," said Mrs. Brown. "Have fun, and don't play any pranks."

3—While trick-or-treating may be great fun, it is important to be safe on Halloween night. Here is some advice to all children who want to go trick-or-treating this year. Complete the sentences with should or shouldn't. There are a few examples at the beginning.

Children **should** go trick-or-treating in groups. Children **shouldn't** go-trick-or-treating alone.

Kids **should** wait outside for their treats. Kids **shouldn't** go inside the house or apartment of a stranger.

Adults **should** be careful on Halloween night, too. Mrs. Brown did not completely open her door until she was sure that her uninvited visitors were children.

- 1. Younger kids go with older children or an adult.
- 2. When kids don't get any treats, they damage property.
- 3. Kids stop trick-or-treating by 8:00 p.m.
- 4. To be sure that cars will see children after dark children wear dark-coloured costumes. Their parents put reflecting tape on their children's costumes.
- To be sure that the kids see the cars parents
 enlarge the eye-holes in masks by cutting them with scissors.

Designed by Bartosz Michałowski for Pearson Longman

PHOTOCOPIABLE

FESTIVAL WORKSHEETS

Halloween Elementary+ Teacher's Notes

Tasks: to collect some vocabulary related to Halloween

to read and complete a text about trick-or-treating on Halloween to give advice to children who go trick-or-treating and their

parents, using should(n't)

Preparation: make copies of the worksheet

Skills: speaking, reading

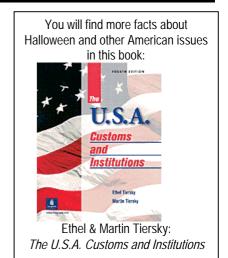
Language: vocabulary connected with Halloween

should(n't) for advice

Sources: Ethel and Martin Tiersky, *The U.S.A. Customs and Institutions*,

4th edition, Longman 2001.

[Task @ — adapted from page 225] [Task @ — adapted from page 228]



Task 1 – lead-in (speaking, vocabulary)

- Try to elicit some facts about Halloween from your students in order to learn how much they know about the festival. If they do not have even rudimentary knowledge, you may consider using last year's worksheets available from Person Longman (search the archives www.longman.com.pl/i.php?i=524). Otherwise, give each student a copy of the new worksheet. Divide your group into pairs.
- Ask them to complete the first task. Students should find seven words connected with Halloween by matching halves of the words. Then, they should try to explain why these words are related to the festival.
- Check the answers with your class. Explain any unknown words and/or Halloween traditions.

APPLE – as in the phrase *bob for apples* – to play a game in which you must use your teeth to pick up apples which are floating in water

GHOST – a popular Halloween costume

SCARY – i.e. frightening – people like telling *scary* stories to frighten other people; the costumes that people wear to Halloween parties are also often *scary*

Key Key

SWEET – one of the *treats* that children are given while they are trick-or-treating (see below)

TRICK OR TREAT – as in the phrase *trick or treat* and *go trick-or-treating* – these are the words that children say when they go trick or treating, to say that they will play a trick on someone if they are not given a *treat*, e.g. *sweets*

WITCH – a popular Halloween costume

There are some other possible combinations (*SWEAT* and *SCALE*) but in each case students must be able to explain the link with Halloween.

Task 2 (reading, vocabulary)

- Explain to the students that the text they are going to read describes what happens on Halloween night when children go trick-or-treating. The students' task is to read the text and try to complete the words with coded letters. Try to decipher the first word together, stress the fact that ◆ stands for one **consonant** and ❖ stands for one **vowel**.
- Explain vowel and consonant if necessary. You may also want to pre-teach some vocabulary, especially *holster*, *safety chain*, *pranks* and *candy*.
- After a few minutes check the answers. If your students have difficulty with completing this task, you may help them by
 - writing all the missing words on the blackboard in the alphabetical order, or
 - by giving them some clues about the meaning of the words.
- Ask some comprehension questions if necessary.

Vorr	1.	room	5.	jeans	9.	white
Key	2.	knock	6.	gun	10.	ring
Key	3.	knocks	7.	answered		
vea	4.	treat	8.	sheet		

Task 3 (grammar)

- Elicit *should* as a means of giving advice to people. Ask your students to read the examples on the left. Elicit which two sentences describe good, desirable behaviour, and which two wrong behaviour.
- Ask the students to complete the sentences on the right with *should* or *shouldn't*.
- When they are ready, ask them to compare their answers in pairs. Finally, check the answers with the whole group. Pay attention to pronunciation problems and answer any questions.

Key

- 1. should
- 2. shouldn't
- 3. should

Key

- 4. shouldn't / should
- 5. should

Notes & comments

■ If you have not taught *should* yet, use task ③ to introduce it. With the **inductive** approach in mind, make your students work out the meaning of *should*, as well as its form.

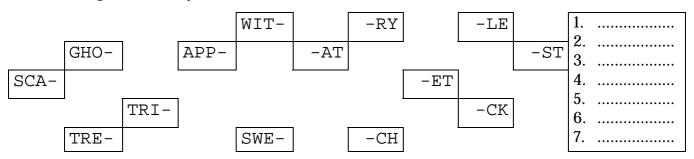
Homework

- [VOCABULARY] Ask your students to learn a few words connected with Halloween, e.g. those in Task ①.
- [GRAMMAR] Ask your students to describe a situation or a place in which they could give another person some advice. Do <u>not</u> ask them to write any sentences with *should* or *shouldn't*. It is enough if they describe a simple situation, e.g. *Somebody has just moved to Poland and wants to rent a flat. Somebody wants to buy a present for his/her brother's birthday*. Collect their ideas and use them as **generative** situations (i.e. situations which generate a few examples of the targeted grammar item, here *should*) during the next lesson. You can introduce and/or revise other modals as well, e.g. *must* and *mustn't*, using the same situations. If you follow this procedure, you will be able to practise some modals with your class, using your students' ideas. Even if the students do not pay attention to inclass grammar explanation, they will hopefully remember some of the sentences relating to their own problem situations.

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Halloween	Intermediate
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①—Do you know many Halloween words? Try to build 7 words using these bricks. Then, explain their meaning and how they are related to this festival.



②—While some activities are usually restricted for small children, teenagers and adults can have fun on Halloween as well. One of popular activities is telling scary stories. Can you identify some elements that are common to many Halloween stories? What are their main characters? What are the themes and objects that reappear over and over again? Work in pairs or small groups and discuss your ideas.

③—**SCARY** is a very good word to describe a ghost story. Do you know any others? Work with a partner and write down as many 'scary' words as you can. Then, compare your list with another pair.

- **①**—What are the elements that make a ghost story successful? Read these excerpts from "*Lost Hearts*" by M. R. James, a classic English author. Underline these words and expressions which make the story *scary*.
 - A. "An evening light fell on the building, making the windows shine like fires. In front of the hall there was a park full of trees, and a church with a clock."
 - B. "In his dream, Stephen looked through the glass and saw a body in the bath, a very thin, dusty body with a sad smile and the hands pressed over the heart. As Stephen looked, a terrible cry came from the lips, and the arms began to move."
 - C. "It was now March 24, 1812, a strange day, windy and noisy. Stephen stood in the garden and felt as if it was full of ghosts, people he couldn't see who were flying in the wind and trying to contact living people in the real world."
 - D. "Mr Abney was in his chair, his head thrown back and his eyes wide, with a look of terrible fear and pain on his face. On the left side of his chest was a large hole and Stephen could see his heart. But there was no blood on his hands and the long knife on the table was completely clean. The window of the library was open and the window blew the curtains in a terrible dance. An old book was open on the table and this is what Stephen read:..."

E. "For many years people wondered about Mr Abney's death. 'It must have been a wild cat that came in through the open window and killed the poor man,' they said. But Stephen knew the truth."

You will find simplified versions of this story and other scary stories in this Penguin Reader



FESTIVAL WORKSHEETS

Halloween Intermediate+ Teacher's Notes

Language:

to collect vocabulary necessary for Tasks:

writing a ghost story

to list and name qualities of a good

short story

to write a ghost story (homework)

Longman Dictionary of Sources:

Contemporary English on CD-ROM

ghost story

words related to Halloween

vocabulary necessary for writing a

synonyms of 'scary'

Penguin Reader "The Locked Room and Other Horror Stories" by M.R.

James

Preparation: make copies of the worksheet, one

copy per student

Skills: speaking, reading, writing (homework)

Task 1 – lead-in (speaking, vocabulary)

- Try to elicit some facts about Halloween from your students in order to learn how much they know about the festival. If they do not have even rudimentary knowledge, you may consider using last year's worksheets available from Person Longman (search the archives www.longman.com.pl/i.php?i=524). Otherwise, give each student a copy of the new worksheet. Divide your group into pairs.
- Ask them to complete the first task. Students should find seven words connected with Halloween by matching halves of the words. Then, they should try to explain why these words are related to the festival.
- Check the answers with your class. Explain any unknown words and/or Halloween traditions.

APPLE – as in the phrase bob for apples – to play a game in which you must use your teeth to pick up apples which are floating in water

GHOST – a popular Halloween costume

SCARY – i.e. frightening – people like telling scary stories to frighten other people; the costumes that people wear to Halloween parties are also often scary

Key Key

Key

Key

SWEET – one of the *treats* that children are given while they are trick-or-treating (see below)

TRICK OR TREAT – as in the phrase trick or treat and go trick-or-treating – (these are the words that children say when they go trick or treating, to say that they will play a trick on someone if they are not given a treat, e.g. sweets

WITCH – a popular Halloween costume

There are some other possible combinations (SWEAT and SCALE) but in each case students must be able to explain the link with Halloween.

Task 2 (vocabulary, speaking)

- Explain that some Halloween activities are performed only by children (e.g. adults don't go trick-or-treating). Still, teenagers and adults can have fun on Halloween, as there are parties, people decorate their houses, and organise themost-scary-story contests.
- Explain that during this lesson they will think of vocabulary that could be used in scary stories to make them even more scary (and more enjoyable).
- Ask your students to think about main characters of horrors and ghost stories. Working in pairs, the students should come up with some ideas. After a few minutes, collect the ideas. You can draw a spidergram on the board.

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[suggested answers & vocabulary]

Halloween characters (related vocabulary given in brackets):

- ghost (haunted house/castle, to clang chains, afterlife)
- witch (old and ugly, broomstick, black cat, crystal ball, tarot, white and black magic)

zombie (grave, cemetery)

skeleton (skull, bones)

- vampire (the most famous Dracula, castle, coffin, blood-thirsty, to suck blood)
- devil (to be possessed by devil, to sell one's soul to the devil)

Task 3 (vocabulary, speaking)

Ask the students to come up with some synonyms of 'scary'. After a while, sum up their ideas and your own

examples on the board.

[suggested answers from LDOCE]

Words and phrases with a similar meaning:

- frightening (~ experience/thought/prospect; it's ~)
- terrifying (~ scream/crash/sound; ~ experience/ordeal/thought; it's ~)
- creepy
- chilling (also spine-chilling)
- hair-raising (~ tale/story)
- blood-curdling (~ scream/howl/roar)

Task 4

(reading, speaking)

- Explain that there are five excerpts from a simplified version of a ghost story "Lost Hearts" by M. R. James.
- Ask them to read the excerpts and find the elements that make a ghost story successful.

[suggested answers]

Features of a good story:

- uses a wide variety of adjectives [thin, dusty, sad, terrible, strange, windy, noisy]
- uses words that appeal to all the senses [things which you can hear: windy, noisy day; things which you can see: an evening light]

Key Key

Key

Key

- in order to hold the reader's interest an author uses words that create a scary atmosphere and often suspense [terrible cry, ghosts trying to contact living people in the real world, terrible fear and pain]
- describes both what has happened and what hasn't happened, if that is important [there was no blood]
- describes people's feelings [he felt as if...]
- final paragraph (excerpt E) leaves the reader with a lasting impression [But Stephen knew the truth.]

There are some more qualities that do not follow from the analysis of the excerpts on the worksheet.

- use of direct speech
- use of colloquial English, i.e. idioms and idiomatic expressions, contractions etc.

Homework

■ [WRITING] Ask your students to write a ghost story, or at least one paragraph of a ghost story. Ask them to use some words from this lesson and apply some of the techniques. Set a clear word and time limit for this task. It is a suitable *New Matura* task at the extended level (*poziom rozszerzony*) with a 250 word limit and *Matura*-like criteria of assessment.

Notes & comments

A wide choice of ghost stories for intermediate students is available from PENGUIN READERS. Here are some titles.

Level 3 (1200 words)	Level 4 (1700 words)
Edgar Allan Poe: The Black Cat and Other Stories	M. R. James: <i>The Locked Room and Other Horror Stories</i>
Thomas Hood and Others: The Man with Two Shadows and Other Ghost Stories	Stephen King: <i>The Breathing Method</i>









You can find a complete list at www.penguinreaders.com.