



Happy Halloween!



Oooh, there is a ghost behind you!



Aaaaaah, stop trying to scare me!

It will be Halloween this coming Saturday – are you ready for this holiday? It is a fun time for both grown-ups and kids. Some people might set up a haunted house and kids can dress up as various characters and collect sweets. In fact, even adults like to dress up as well, and they then throw fancy dress parties.





Trick or treat!

ALTHOUGH it is not a day off, people around the world still love Halloween, especially children. Take a look at what it is, its origins, and what other traditions this fun festival has.

What is Halloween?

ALWAYS falling on 31 October, Halloween is a day for scares and fun. Many older Chinese folk call it the 'Western ghost festival'. Many people, both grown-ups and kids, dress up in **costumes** for the day.

In the evening, kids go trick-or-treating, meaning they knock on each door and ask for sweets. If the grown-ups refuse, the kids do something naughty but that rarely happens, if ever.



Origins

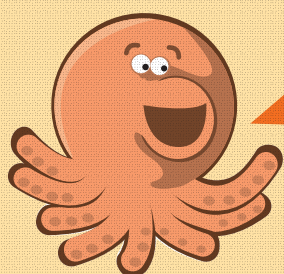
MANY people believe that Halloween is based on an ancient Celtic (凱爾特人的) festival called Samhain. On Samhain, the gates of hell supposedly open for one night, and ghosts and monsters enter the human world to destroy things and **lure** kids into hell. To avoid being captured, people dress up in costumes to pretend to be a ghost or monster themselves.

But the festival is connected to Christianity as well, because the early Christians set up 1 November as All Saints' Day, or All Hallows' Day. This is why Halloween is also called All Hallows' Eve.

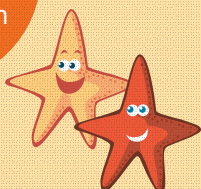
Other traditions

THERE are other Halloween traditions. Many places also set up a **haunted** house, so that people can go in and get scared. There might also be games like **bobbing** for apples at a party.

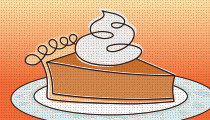
And right before Halloween, people might pick up a pumpkin or two, **hollow** it out and **carve out** a scary face in it. They then put a candle inside, making it into a jack-o-lantern, and put it near their door. Afterwards, they might make and eat pumpkin pies on the day of the festival.



Ask your parents for help if you want your pumpkin carved!



Fill in the missing letters
Which is not related to Halloween?



A. P_mpk_n_p_e



B. Sw__ts



C. S_sh__

Answers on P12

costume (n)
服裝

lure (v)
引誘

haunted (adj)
鬧鬼的

Vocabulary
Challenge ★★★★★

bob (v)
試咬住懸掛物

hollow (v)
掏空

carve out (v)
刻