

# Halloween Activities



**Prediction:** What do you know about Halloween? Write **T** if you think the sentence is true. Write **F** if you think it is false.

1. Halloween started in the U.S.A.
2. In history, costumes were worn to scare away ghosts.
3. Halloween became a children's holiday in the 20th Century.
4. Halloween was associated with the celebration of the new year on November 1.
5. The tradition of bobbing for apples came from the Romans.
6. November 1 was named All Saints' Day in the current century.
7. In history, All Souls Day had three celebrations.
8. In the U.S.A. celebration of Halloween in colonial times was extremely limited.
9. In the past, Americans dressed up in costumes and went house to house asking for food or money.
10. Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6.9 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's largest commercial holiday.

**Reading:** [History of Halloween](http://www.history.com/topics/halloween) (<http://www.history.com/topics/halloween>)  
Now read the **article**. Give yourself a point for each correct prediction. For each incorrect sentence, change it to make it correct.

**Vocabulary:** Read the sentences from the article and notice the use of the underlined words. Use a dictionary to look up and write the definitions. Write the part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc.). Then write an original sentence using the word.

1. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred.
2. For a people entirely dependent on the volatile natural world, these prophecies were an important source of comfort and direction during the long, dark winter.
3. To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities.

4. As the beliefs and customs of different European ethnic groups, as well as the American Indians, meshed, a distinctly American version of Halloween began to emerge.
5. By the 1920s and 1930s, Halloween had become a secular, but community-centered holiday, with parades and town-wide parties as the featured entertainment.
6. Halloween lost most of its superstitious and religious overtones by the beginning of the twentieth century.
7. Due to the high numbers of young children during the fifties baby boom, parties moved from town civic centers into the classroom or home, where they could be more easily accommodated.
8. The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits.
9. On Halloween, to keep ghosts away from their houses, people would place bowls of food outside their homes to appease the ghosts and prevent them from attempting to enter.
10. Today's Halloween ghosts are often depicted as more fearsome and malevolent, and our customs and superstitions are scarier too.

**Listening and note-taking: Halloween: Primal Fear: Controlling Fear**

(<http://www.history.com/topics/halloween/videos#halloween-primal-fear-controlling-fear>)

Watch the video and fill in the notes outline:

There are three ways to control your fear:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ situation

We do this the most or the least? \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the thing you're \_\_\_\_\_ of

Repeated exposure to something you are afraid of with nothing bad happening creates new \_\_\_\_\_ = "e \_\_\_\_\_ the fear"

3. \_\_\_\_\_ about things \_\_\_\_\_

Use our \_\_\_\_\_ to control our \_\_\_\_\_