

# THE STORY OF HALLOWEEN



Do you like scary stories, candy and fun clothes? Then you will love Halloween!

Many people think Halloween started in the United States. But it's not true! It started in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.

Halloween comes from a very old festival. The name of this festival was "Samhain". Long ago, people called Celts lived in Britain and Ireland. They had their Samhain festival on November 1st. They thought ghosts came back on Samhain! To make the ghosts go away, they did two things. First, they wore costumes. Second, they made big fires.

Many years later, in the 1800s, many Irish people moved to America. And they took Halloween with them! Soon, many people in America liked Halloween too.

How do people celebrate today? They make pumpkin lights. They cut scary faces in pumpkins and put candles inside. The Celts did this too, but with potatoes.

People also wear costumes on Halloween, just like the Celts! Some people dress up as witches, ghosts, vampires or skeletons.

On Halloween night, children go to houses and ask for candy! They say, "Trick or treat?" This comes from the old Celts too. The Celts asked for food at their Samhain festival.

What will you do for Halloween? Remember to have fun and... be a little spooky!

## EXERCISES

### 1. Match the Halloween character to the right description.

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|-------------|--|
| 1. Ghost    | a. A person with big teeth. They like to drink blood.                      |
| 2. Witch    | b. A white shape that can fly.   |
| 3. Vampire  | c. A woman with magic powers. She rides a broom and often wears a big hat. |
| 4. Skeleton | d. A body made of bones.   |

### 2. Change the sentences to simple present tense.

1. The Celts made big fires. Now: The Celts \_\_\_\_\_ big fires.
2. They wore costumes. Now: They \_\_\_\_\_ costumes.
3. Irish people moved to America. Now: Irish people \_\_\_\_\_ to America.
4. Children went to houses for candy. Now: Children \_\_\_\_\_ to houses for candy.
5. People cut funny faces in pumpkins. Now: People \_\_\_\_\_ funny faces in pumpkins.

### 3. In pairs. You can choose your Halloween costume! Who do you want to be, and why? Take turns to ask and answer the question.

#### Bibliografia:

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/study-break/magazine-zone/halloween>

<https://www.britannica.com/story/why-do-we-celebrate-halloween>

## SOLUZIONI

1. 1-B; 2-C; 3-A; 4-D
2. 1 make; 2 wear; 3 move; 4 go; 5 cut