

# HALLOWEEN--Lesson #1

## Teacher's Notes

### **Life - Community Building** (Warm-up; 10)

1. Small talk: How are you? How was your week? Introduction of new students
2. PAN questions (Do you have English questions from your daily lives?)
3. Review of homework

### **Life to Topic** (10-15)

#### **Class Discussion**

1. What do you know about Halloween?
2. What are the objects related to Halloween you have observed?
3. To the best of your knowledge, what ideas seem to be related to Halloween? (possible answers: death, fear, supernatural spirits, candy, costumes, etc.)
4. Does Halloween remind you of anything similar in your own culture? Explain.

### **Topic (25-30):** Reading: "*The Origins of Halloween*"

1. Read in turn, paragraph by paragraph.
2. Stop to clarify word meanings after each paragraph. The meaning of some words are explained at the end of the story. Other difficult words may include: tombs, rituals, invasion, substituted. Be alert to hesitations while reading.
3. Do the "*Reading Comprehension Questions*" (Option: either as a group project or individually first, then as a group debrief)
4. **Optional:** Do the "*Grammar Check*."

### **Topic to Life** (30-35)

1. Now, having read about the origins of Halloween, does it remind you of anything in your own culture?
2. What are the main themes related to the origins of Halloween?
3. Do you think these themes are a part of how you observe Halloween in Canada?
4. What is "trick or treating"?
5. Many parents worry about children going out on Halloween. Why would parents worry about these things: taking candy from people they don't know? being out at night? wearing masks while crossing the street?
6. Will you participate in "trick or treating"?
7. What do you think about "death and evil spirits"?

### **Life** (5-10)

1. Over the next week, watch the customs in Canada related to Halloween. Take part in whatever customs you can and wish to. Be prepared to discuss next week.
2. What Halloween items do you see in the stores? (Possible answers: Candy, costumes, balloons & scary decorations, etc.)

3. What decorations can you see at the houses in your neighborhood?:  
(Possible answers: jack 'o lanterns, scarecrows, ghosts, bats, cobwebs and other scary things.)
4. Talk to Canadians about Halloween, whenever possible. Ask them to explain its origin and how they celebrate it, if they do, and why.
5. Optional: Carve a pumpkin.
6. Continue your PANning, though especially about Halloween.

### **Various Halloween Lesson Plans (ready to print and use)**

<http://www.englishpage.com/holidays/weeklylessonhallo.html>

[http://www.yodawork.com//images/NATHAN-LANGUES-VIVANTES/da/ga\\_halloween\\_7\\_14.pdf](http://www.yodawork.com//images/NATHAN-LANGUES-VIVANTES/da/ga_halloween_7_14.pdf)

[http://www.parlo.com/en/teachers/lessonplans/haloeng\\_1.asp](http://www.parlo.com/en/teachers/lessonplans/haloeng_1.asp)

<http://www.lclark.edu/~krauss/toppicks/halloweencloze.htm>

<http://www.johnsesl.com/printables/holidays/halloween/>

[http://www.wsl.edu.pl/%7Eazetka/halloween\\_index.html](http://www.wsl.edu.pl/%7Eazetka/halloween_index.html)

<http://www.johnsesl.com/printables/holidays/halloween/>

## The History of Halloween

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**Halloween** is not exactly a typical holiday. Other holidays, like Christmas and ..., celebrate an event. Halloween celebrates a lot of things, including the lives of people who aren't with us anymore.

**The** history of Halloween is not entirely a clear one. Here's how (we think) it started:

**Many** hundreds of years ago, a people called the Celts lived in Europe and on the British Isles. The Celts believed that the souls of the dead visited Earth on the last day of October. They had a festival in honor of these souls of the dead, and they called it Samhain.

**In** time, the Roman Empire conquered the Celts and took over some of their beliefs as well. This included Samhain. The Romans combined it with their own festivals. And since the Roman Empire spread across a great part of the known world, the idea that the souls of the dead visited Earth on the last day of October spread far and wide.

**Many** ideas from the Roman days still survive in the United States and in other Western countries. Halloween is one of them.

**But** how did we get the name Halloween?

**In** the 8th Century, the Catholic Church declared November 1 to be All Saints' Day. The church calendar had a number of days honoring saints already. November 1 was picked to be the day to honor all saints who didn't already have a day named in their honor.

**And** the mass that the Catholic Church celebrated on November 1 was called *Allhallowmas*. This meant "mass of all the hallowed [saintly people.]" It was commonly called "All Hallows' Day."

**And** somewhere along the line, the night before became known as *Allhallowe'en*, which was short for "evening before All Hallows' Day." It was then shortened to what we now call it, Halloween.

**One** last question: Why do people dress up as ghosts, goblins, vampires, and other scary creatures? The people who started all this Halloween business many years ago believed that if they appeared scary, they would scare away the spirits of the dead who were roaming the earth on All Hallows' Eve. These people also carried food to the edge of town and left it there, hoping the spirits would eat that food and not come raid the village.

<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/holidays/halloweenhistory.htm>

Graphics courtesy of ArtToday

## HALLOWEEN--Lesson #1

### Student Handout

#### ***Class Discussion:***

1. What do you know about Halloween?
2. What are the objects related to Halloween you have observed?
3. To the best of your knowledge, what ideas seem to be related to Halloween? Why do you think Canadians celebrate Halloween?
4. Does Halloween remind you of anything similar in your own culture?

#### ***Reading: “The Origins Of Halloween” \****

The origins of Halloween are very old. In fact, this festivity started in Celtic<sup>1</sup> Britain. The Celts lived in the British Isles during ancient times. They were pagans.<sup>2</sup> They believed in the gods of nature. There were two important festivals on the Celtic calendar, Beltane and Samhain.<sup>3</sup> Beltane celebrated the beginning of summer and Samhain the start of winter, on November 1. Samhain was also the first day of the year on the Celtic calendar. The festival of Samhain started on October 31 and finished on November 1.

The Celts were afraid of winter. The days were short and cold, and the nights were very long. They associated<sup>4</sup> winter with death and evil spirits.

The Celts believed that on the night of October 31 the spirits of the dead came out of their tombs. The Celts made big fires to frighten<sup>5</sup> the ghosts. They also wore scary costumes. The Celts played games on October 31 to bring good luck in the year. They ate nuts and apples because they were lucky foods.

The Druids were Celtic priests<sup>6</sup> and teachers. They were very important in Celtic society. They practiced magic and religious rituals. Everyone respected the Druids. At Samhain the Druids talked about the future and led the celebrations.

There are still some Druids today. They believe in the ancient Celtic religion called Druidism. They love and respect nature. They meet and celebrate some Celtic festivities at Stonehenge and in other places.

The colors of Halloween are of Celtic origin. Black was the color of winter and long nights. Orange was the color of the harvest. The black cat is another symbol of Halloween. The Celts believed that the black cat had special powers.

After the Roman invasion in AD 43 the Romans combined Samhain with their festival, Pomona. Pomona was the Roman goddess of gardens and fruit trees and this festival celebrated the harvest.

Many years after the Roman invasion, Christian practices substituted pagan ones. On the first day of November, Christians celebrated All Saints' Day or All Hallows' Day. The evening of October 31 was All Hallows' Eve. This became Halloween.

The Druid religion continued for a long time in Ireland and Scotland, and people continued to celebrate Halloween. In the 19th century, Irish immigrants took their Halloween traditions to the United States. Now Halloween is a very big festivity in the United States and in many other countries too.

1. Celtic : American English [ 'seltlk], British English [ 'keltlk].
2. Pagan (<http://dictionary.reference.com/search?db=dictionary&q=pagan>; (23-9-08)
  - a. one of a people or community observing a polytheistic religion, as the ancient Romans and Greeks.
  - b. a person who is not a Christian, Jew, or Muslim.
  - c. an irreligious or hedonistic person.
3. Samhain : [saUn].
4. associated : linked, connected.
5. frighten : scare, terrify.
6. priests : these people perform religious ceremonies in some religions.

### ***Reading Comprehension Questions \****

Are these sentences “Right” (A) or “Wrong” (B)? If there is not enough information to answer choose “Doesn’t Say” (C). There is an example at the beginning (0).

- 0 The festivity of Halloween started in the year 500 BC.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 1 The ancient Celts were pagans.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 2 Beltane and Samhain were two important Celtic festivals.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 3 Beltane was the last day of the year.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 4 The Druids were Roman priests.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 5 On 31 October the Celts made big fires to frighten evil spirits.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 6 The colours of Halloween are orange and black.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 7 The word Halloween comes from All Hallows' Eve.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say
- 8 Fifty Irish immigrants took their Halloween customs to America.  
A Right      B Wrong      C Doesn't say

**Grammar Check\*:** Nouns are the names of people, places or things. Adjectives are words that describe nouns. Complete the sentences with the correct adjective or noun from the tables below.

ADJECTIVES: scary first important afraid magic

NOUNS: year calendar games festival spirits winter rituals

- a. There were two \_\_\_\_\_ festivals on the Celtic \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Samhain was the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. The Celts were \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. The Celts dressed \_\_\_\_\_ costumes to frighten the bad \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. They played \_\_\_\_\_ on October 31.
- f. After the Roman invasion, Samhain became a harvest \_\_\_\_\_.
- g. The Druids practiced \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Discussion**

1. Now, having read about the origins of Halloween, does it remind you of anything in your own culture?
2. What are the main themes related to the origins of Halloween?
3. Do you think these themes are a part of how you observe Halloween in Canada?
4. What is “trick or treating”?
5. Many parents worry about children going out on Halloween. Why would parents worry about these things: taking candy from people they don't know? being out at night? wearing masks while crossing the street?
6. Will you participate in “trick or treating”?
7. What do you think about “death and evil spirits”?

### **Homework**

1. Over the next week, watch the customs in Canada related to Halloween. Take part in whatever customs you can and wish to. Be prepared to discuss next week.
2. What Halloween items do you see in the stores?
3. What decorations can you see at the houses in your neighborhood?:
4. Talk to Canadians about Halloween, whenever possible. Ask them to explain its origin and how they celebrate it, if they do, and why.
5. *Optional:* Carve a pumpkin.
6. Continue your PANning, though especially about Halloween.

\* Adapted from [http://www.yodawork.com//images/NATHAN-LANGUES-VIVANTES/da/ga\\_halloween\\_7\\_14.pdf](http://www.yodawork.com//images/NATHAN-LANGUES-VIVANTES/da/ga_halloween_7_14.pdf)

## HALLOWEEN--Lesson #2

### Teacher's Notes

Time: 90 mins

Level: Intermediate / Advanced

#### **Life - Community Building** (Warm-up; 10)

1. Small talk: How are you? How was your week? Introduction of new students
2. PAN questions
3. Review of homework

#### **Life to Topic** (10)

##### **Class Discussion**

1. The Bible has lots to say about the themes of Halloween. Considering all the objects related to Halloween you have observed, what do you think the main themes of Halloween are? (possible answers: death, fear, afterlife, darkness/light, spirits, ...)
2. (Teacher writes the word "Halloween" on the board, showing the parts of "Hallow-evening" contracting to "Hallow-e'en"...the evening before, as Christmas Eve is the evening before Christmas.) "Hallow" is an *old English word* meaning (as a noun) "a holy person" or "a saint" (from the Latin, *sanctus* meaning "holy"). As a verb *hallow* means "to make holy or sacred, to sanctify or consecrate, to venerate." (But "Hallow" is not used very much, really only in two expressions, Halloween being one of them...we'll get to the other one shortly.)
3. But what does "holy" mean? What is a "holy person"? What do you think?
4. Halloween is also sometimes called "All Souls' Day" is also known as the "Feast of All Souls," or the "Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed."

#### **Topic** (20-30)

*"The Lord's Prayer"*

##### **Pre-reading 5**

1. What is a prayer? (possible answers: talking to God and listening to God)
2. Do you pray? Is this an idea you know about? Do you practice it?

##### **Reading 5-10**

1. Look at verse 9 in Reading A, ESV (English Standard Version), with the word "Hallowed". What does that mean? Look at the other translations for help.
2. Read "The Lord's Prayer", verse by verse, straight through:
  - a. First the teacher (to model fluent reading); read 'prayerfully' (ESV).
  - b. Then each student reading a verse.

##### **Class Discussion 5-15**

1. Read through verse by verse again (ESV), stopping to ponder and explain as necessary the meanings of the words. Teacher can use the other translations (B, C & D) to assist. The Teacher should ask for student explanations of any

words that are possibly difficult. Use the oral reading as a clue for where the readers stumbled or hesitated a bit.

2. Don't force the discussion but leave openness to let the Holy Spirit use the Word to search hearts, and open minds.

### **Topic to Life (30-35)**

1. Do you see any relation between Halloween and "The Lord's Prayer"...other than the word "Hallow"? Teacher: give a moment or two for student response, then say "Let's return to the "themes of Halloween" we observed. List them to refresh the memories as needed: death, fear, afterlife, darkness/light, spirits, .... How are these related to "The Lord's Prayer" and what it talks about?
  - a. Praying to God assumes He exists, is eternal (always there), a Spirit, is Personal, Holy, to be honoured... what else from The Lord's Prayer?
  - b. How would Who God is as revealed by The Lord's Prayer speak to
    - i. Death (As eternal, God does not die; He is 'there' even after we die; if He is the 'Greatest Spirit', He is greater than other spirits, good or bad, so could help us; If we can talk to Him, perhaps He will help us; If His Son Jesus died, He would understand; etc.)
    - ii. Fear (If He's our Father, He would understand our fears; etc.)
    - iii. The Afterlife
    - iv. Etc.
2. Have the students write:
  - a. Who is God according to the Lord's Prayer?
  - b. If God is like this, how does it affect how we look at the themes of Halloween?
3. Teacher asks: Would you agree with the (implicit) understanding of God in the The Lord's Prayer?
  - a. Notice how God is revealed in the The Lord's Prayer: Father, in Heaven, Holy, a King, Sovereign, owns everything, Provider, Forgiver of sins, Guide, Deliverer, the One who overcomes the evil one!
  - b. Bring all this out as appropriate. How do these characteristics of God relate to the themes of Halloween and/or to our lives?
4. If you did, would/might that make any difference? For example, if God were your Father, how would you feel? Would that be good?
5. (optional) What do you think a "saint" is? Some people think a 'saint' is just an especially holy or good person; other Christians think that all those who believe in Jesus are saints--this is how the Bible uses the word 'saint'. Why would 'believing in Jesus' make such a difference?
6. (optional) How does this relate to ancestor worship?

### **Life (5-10)**

1. Continue your PANning, though especially about Halloween.
2. Talk to Canadians about Halloween. Ask them to explain it to you.
3. Carve a pumpkin.
4. Might you want to "talk to God"?



## HALLOWEEN--Lesson #2 Student Handout

### ***Class Discussion:***

1. Does anyone know the word “hallow”?
2. What is a prayer?
3. Do you pray? Is this an idea you know about? Do you practice it?

### ***Reading: “The Lord’s Prayer” (MATTHEW 6:9-13)***

A. <sup>9</sup> Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (ESV)

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B. <sup>9</sup> Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored.

<sup>10</sup> May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us our food for today,

<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.

<sup>13</sup> And don't let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. (NLT)

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C. <sup>9</sup> Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.

<sup>10</sup> Let your kingdom come. Let your pleasure be done, as in heaven, so on earth.

<sup>11</sup> Give us this day bread for our needs.

<sup>12</sup> And make us free of our debts, as we have made those free who are in debt to us.

<sup>13</sup> And let us not be put to the test, but keep us safe from the Evil One. (BBE)

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D. <sup>9</sup> Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.

<sup>10</sup> Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us our food for today.

<sup>12</sup> Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others.

<sup>13</sup> Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil. (CEV;

[http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?book\\_id=47&chapter=6&version=46](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?book_id=47&chapter=6&version=46); accessed 1-October 2008 )

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*For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'*

## ***Vocabulary & Reading Comprehension***

1. Are there any words or verses you find difficult to understand?
2. Compare the different translations for help.

## ***Discussion***

1. Do you see any relation between Halloween and “The Lord’s Prayer” ... other than the word “Hallow”? Remember the “themes of Halloween” we observed? How are these related to “The Lord’s Prayer” and what it talks about?
2. Write:
  - a. Who is God according to the Lord’s Prayer?
  - b. If God is like this, how does it affect how we look at the themes of Halloween?
3. Would you agree with the (somewhat implicit) understanding of God in the “Lord’s Prayer”?
4. If you did, would/might that make any difference? For example, if God were your Father, how would you feel? Would that be good?
5. (optional) What do you think a “saint” is? Some people think a ‘saint’ is just an especially holy or good person; other Christians think that all those who believe in Jesus are saints-this is how the Bible uses the word ‘saint’. Why would ‘believing in Jesus’ make such a difference?
6. (optional) How does this relate to ancestor worship?

## **Homework**

1. Continue your PANning, though especially about Halloween.
2. Talk to Canadians about Halloween. Ask them to explain it to you.
3. Carve a pumpkin.
4. Might you want to “talk to God”?