



Listen to the report and do the following activities.

1. Place the following facts into the order in which they are mentioned in the report.

1		a. Pumpkins can be used instead of turnips to make lanterns.
2		b. November 1 st was named <i>All Saints' Day</i> .
3		c. Hallowe'en makes a lot of money in the US.
4		d. The meaning of the word Hallowe'en.
5		e. The original Pagan festival celebrated by the Celts.
6		f. People made bonfires and sacrifices to the Gods.
7		g. New York's Hallowe'en Parade.

2. Are the following statements true or false?

T	F	
		a. The Hallowe'en tradition is strongest in Europe.
		b. Neighbours must give children sweets on Hallowe'en.
		c. The Celts left food on their doorsteps for the evil souls.
		d. The word "hallow" in Hallowe'en means the "evening before".
		e. The Hallowe'en tradition in America started with Irish and Scottish immigrants.
		f. Now people all over the world can make Hallowe'en lanterns.

3. Complete these sentences taken from the report with verbs in the past tense. Some are irregular. The first two letters of each word are given to help you.

- Halloween (or) _____ in Europe as a Celtic New Year celebration.
- The Celts (be) _____ that the dead returned to possess the living.
- They (le) _____ food on the doorsteps for the good souls and (wo) _____ costumes.
- Their priests (le) _____ the people out into the forests, where they made bonfires.
- Each family (to) _____ home an ember from the fire.
- The fires (wa) _____ their houses throughout the winter.

SOURCE: Speak Up magazine, number 254, pages 8-9.

KEY:

1.
1-c, 2-g, 3-e, 4-f, 5-b, 6-d, 7-a.
2.
a. F, b. T, c. F, d. F, e. T, f. T.
3. a. originated, b. believed, c. left, wore, d. led, e. took, f. warmed.

TAPESCRIPT:

Children celebrate Hallowe'en around the world on the night of October 31st. They go out in macabre costumes to knock on their neighbours' doors and shout out, "Trick or treat!" The neighbours must give sweets; otherwise, the children will perform tricks on them.

Hallowe'en is big business in the United States: people spend around \$7 billion each year on Hallowe'en products. Theme parks like Disneyland hold week-long festivals and many cities have parades. New York's Village Hallowe'en Parade attracts two million people who celebrate in the streets: many of them dress in stunning costumes.

The tradition is strongest in the United States, but interest is growing in Britain and Europe.

In actual fact, Hallowe'en originated in Europe as a Celtic New Year celebration. In the Celtic calendar, October 31st was Samhain, a pagan festival. The Celts believed that the dead returned to possess the living during that night and so they left food on their doorsteps for the good souls and wore costumes to scare off evil ones. Their priests - the druids - led the people out into the forests, where they made bonfires and sacrifices to their gods. Finally, each family took home an ember from the fire in turnip lanterns, in order to start new home fires. The fires warmed their houses throughout the cold winter and kept away evil spirits.

In the Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic church established November 1st as All Saints' Day. There were parades and people gave food or 'soul cakes' to the poor. The name Hallowe'en comes from 'hallow', which is Old English for 'saint', and 'even', which, like the word 'eve', means 'the evening before'.

In the 19th century Irish and Scottish immigrants took their traditions to America, where they discovered that turnips were uncommon, but a local vegetable, the pumpkin, could be used for making lanterns. Today, pumpkins are grown all over the world, so there's no excuse.

Prepare your lanterns, the night of Hallowe'en is near. . .