

HALLOWEEN

People often **think** that Halloween is an American **holiday**. But **in fact**, it comes from the Celts of Ireland. Today, people don't do **the same as** the old Celts: they don't have a big good meal before winter and don't leave their houses cold and **without** light for the night, so **spirits** don't want to live there. This day, the **souls** of **dead** people can come back **if** they **find** a person to stay in his or her body.



However, wearing **scary** masks and costumes – to make the spirits go away – is an old Celtic tradition.

Today, people and especially children enjoy Halloween costume parties. They dress up as **witches**, vampires and **ghosts**, but also **heroes**.

Children in masks go from house to house and when the door opens, they say: *Trick or treat!* If they don't get sweets, they do something bad, for example **throw** eggs at the house.

Typical symbols of the holiday are horror characters: spiders, black cats, witches and ghosts, but also big orange autumn vegetables: **pumpkins**. You can cook excellent pumpkin soup or bake a pie, and make a **lantern** from the **peel**.

Great Britain and the USA **celebrate** Halloween every year on the last October day.

True or false?

1. Halloween is an American holiday.
2. The tradition of costume parties comes from the Celts.
3. People celebrate Halloween in winter.
4. Children say *Trick or treat!* to get pumpkins.
5. If spirits see scary masks, they go away.
6. Spirits can stay here if they find a flat.

Answer the questions:

1. What three things can you make from a pumpkin?
2. What bad thing can children do to people **who** don't give them sweets?
3. What are the symbols of Halloween?
4. Do you know **other** American or British traditions?
5. Do you **believe** in ghosts?

