

II. READING PASSAGES

3. Read the following passage and then answer the questions.

American children really look forward to the last day of October every year. October 31st is called Halloween. People decorate their house with spooky things like spider webs and broomstick witches, they hang out jack-o'-lanterns and in the evening they wait for the brave kids to frighten away the bad spirits from their home. Children put on wild costumes, paint their faces and visit the houses in the neighbourhood to scare the ghosts. "Trick or treat?", the children ask the owner of the house. If they get some treats like chocolate, candy bars or sweets they frighten away the bad spirits, otherwise they play tricks on the people in the house. Children carry a big bag for "trick-or-treat candies". Groups of friends, sisters and brothers walk from home to home in the street. They make funny noise and sometimes they surprise each other, too.

- Do we celebrate Halloween in Hungary?
- What day is Halloween?
- What do people hang out in front of their homes?
- Why do they put scary decoration in their gardens?
- What do the children put on?
- When do the children visit their neighbours?
- What do the children say to the house owners?
- Why do the children carry a big bag?



4. Read the following text about the Halloween preparations. Fill in the gaps with the words below. The first one is done for you.

- a) Halloween b) candies c) top d) ghosts
 e) pumpkin f) candle g) home h) knife

The day before (1) *Halloween* we go to the market or to the supermarket with my parents. We buy a big, yellow (2), and some trick-or-treat (3), At home we take a sharp (4), and we cut the (5) off pumpkin. My mom empties the pumpkin and we carve the side of it. We make a scary face of it and finally we put a (6) inside the pumpkin. My mom puts it in front of our (7) or hangs it out of the window to frighten away the (8)

5. Before Halloween mothers are busy making costumes for the children. Here are some pictures. Pick out the costume you like the best and ask your mom to make it for you. Describe the costume to her: what it is made of, what colour it is, what you need for it.

EXAMPLE ■ This is a spider costume. Its colour is black. We need a pair of black shoes or boots, a pair of black jeans, a black T-shirt or jumper and four more sleeves made of black cloth with four more black mittens.



6. You are explaining to a friend what Halloween is like in the United States. S/he does not understand some words. To find the meaning of the following things match the descriptions on the left with the words on the right.

EXAMPLE ■ Halloween means All Saints' Eve.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. This is a house where bad spirits and ghosts live | a) jack-o'-lantern | 1. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This is an empty pumpkin; inside it there is a candle. | b) spooky face | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. A scary face that frightens other people. | c) haunted house | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. An ugly little person who makes a lot of trouble. | d) goblin | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> |

7. In big cities you can take part in many different kinds of scary events during the last week of October. Here is a page from a daily newspaper. Read the ads and pick out the house that you want to visit. Try to persuade your friend to join you, although s/he wants to stay at home.

START LIKE THIS: Do you feel like visiting a haunted house tomorrow afternoon?

Halloween Haunts

We've scared up lots of fun for this spooktacular holiday.

Terror Town
A host of horrifying characters staff this haunted house at the Lucas County Fairgrounds every Friday and Saturday night in October. Prepare to let out blood-curdling screams—the employees are trained to scare you off your feet. Hours are 7 pm-midnight. Info: 419/897-7242.

Halloweenkends at Cedar Point
Costumed characters, a ghost train, haunted graveyard and houses, theme entertainment, and the Cedar Point scream machines. Fridays, October 3 and 10, 6 pm-midnight; Saturdays, October 4 and 11, noon-midnight; Sundays, October 5 and 12, noon-8 pm. Info: 419/627-2350.

Amazing Maze
If you've read Stephen King's short story "Children of the Corn," you might be more than a bit reluctant to enter this cornfield maze at the Eastern Community Center YMCA on Pickle Rd. in Oregon. Wind your way through a mile-long labyrinth in a four-acre cornfield. Don't despair; rescue is available. Every Friday in October, 5-9 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 3-7 pm. Ages 12 and up \$5, kids 7-11 \$3, 6 and under, free. Info: 691-3523.

The Haunting
Michigan's largest haunted house, with 20,000 square feet of fright. Held at the Dairy Barn at the Lenawee County Fairgrounds, October 10-12, 16-19, 23-26, 28-31, beginning at 7 pm. Admission \$7.50, group rates available. Info: 517/264-1941.

Terror in the Basement: Haunted House
Twenty-five minutes of spooky, bone-chilling horrors in the basement of the D&D Dance Studio, 4223 Monroe St. Fridays and Saturdays, October 17, 18, 24, 25, 6 pm-midnight; Friday, October 31, 8 pm-midnight; Saturday, November 1, 6-11 pm. Info: 471-0171.

Halloween Lantern Tour
Take a night tour of the Auglaize Village on US 24 west of Defiance, October 17 and 18, 8-10:30 pm. Reservations requested; admission \$4. Info: 419/782-7255.

C'mon Ride the (Ghost) Train
Hop on board the Adrian and Blissfield Railroad Ghost Train, October 17-18, 24-25 at 6:45 pm, 7:30 pm, 8:15 pm, and 9 pm. Reservations required. Tickets \$7. Info: 517/486-5979.

Haunted Ghost Town
Walk through 28 haunted buildings in this Hancock County ghost town. Fridays, October 17, 24, and 31; Saturdays, October 18, 25, and November 1; and Sundays, October 19 and 26, beginning at 7:30 pm. Admission is charged, and lines may be long. Hancock Co. Rd. 40, five miles so. of Findlay. Info: 419/326-5874 or 419/420-9977.

Halloween Seance
Celebrate the spirit of the season with an old-fashioned seance at Knowledge, et al., 3550 Executive Parkway, October 18, 7-9 pm. Call 531-7899 to register.

Take a Halloween Hike
Nature at night and fun for all ages. Show up in costume and haunt the forests of the Toledo Metroparks. October 21, special trips for organized groups. October 23, hike for families. Free, but reservations are necessary. Call 535-3058.

Halloween Film Festival
Spooky films for families shown on the big screen of the Ohio Theatre, 3114 Lagrange St. October 24-25, and 30-31. Admission is charged; call 241-6785 for times.

Haunted Halloween Walk Through
Walk through this eerily inviting haunted property at 5580 Centennial Rd. in Sylvania, Friday, October 24 and