

Listen to the following extract and fill in the missing words.

When is Halloween?

November 1st is All Saint's Day, a _____ and _____ Christian feast day.

Another name for All Saint's day is All Hallows' Day, as 'hallow' is an old word for 'saint'.

The evening before, the evening of _____, is All Hallows' Eve, or Hallowe'en.

The _____ of dressing up as _____ or _____ on that evening dates back to much older times, before Christianity.

What is Halloween?

People used to _____ on Halloween because in the old days winter was a _____ time. They didn't always have enough food and many people were _____ of the dark. They all _____ that ghost came back to earth on October 31st.

So they were really scared of meeting a ghost if they went out. To solve this problem people wore _____ when they left their homes, so that ghosts didn't think they were one of them.

People also placed a bowl of food outside their homes to please the ghosts and in the hope that they wouldn't go into their homes.

What do people do on Halloween?

Well, we hollow out a _____. Then we cut a face into one side of it. Then it's ready and we can put a candle into it and wait until it gets dark.



These lanterns are called 'jack-o'-lantern', but why? An Irish legend says that these lanterns were named after a man called 'Jack'. He couldn't enter _____ because he was a miser. However, because he had played jokes on the devil he wasn't allowed into _____. either! So he had to walk around the earth with his lantern until 'Judgement Day'.

The children also go around the houses getting into mischief, or as it is known in England, '_____. or _____. They dress up as witches or ghosts and knock on doors and demand a treat (money or food).