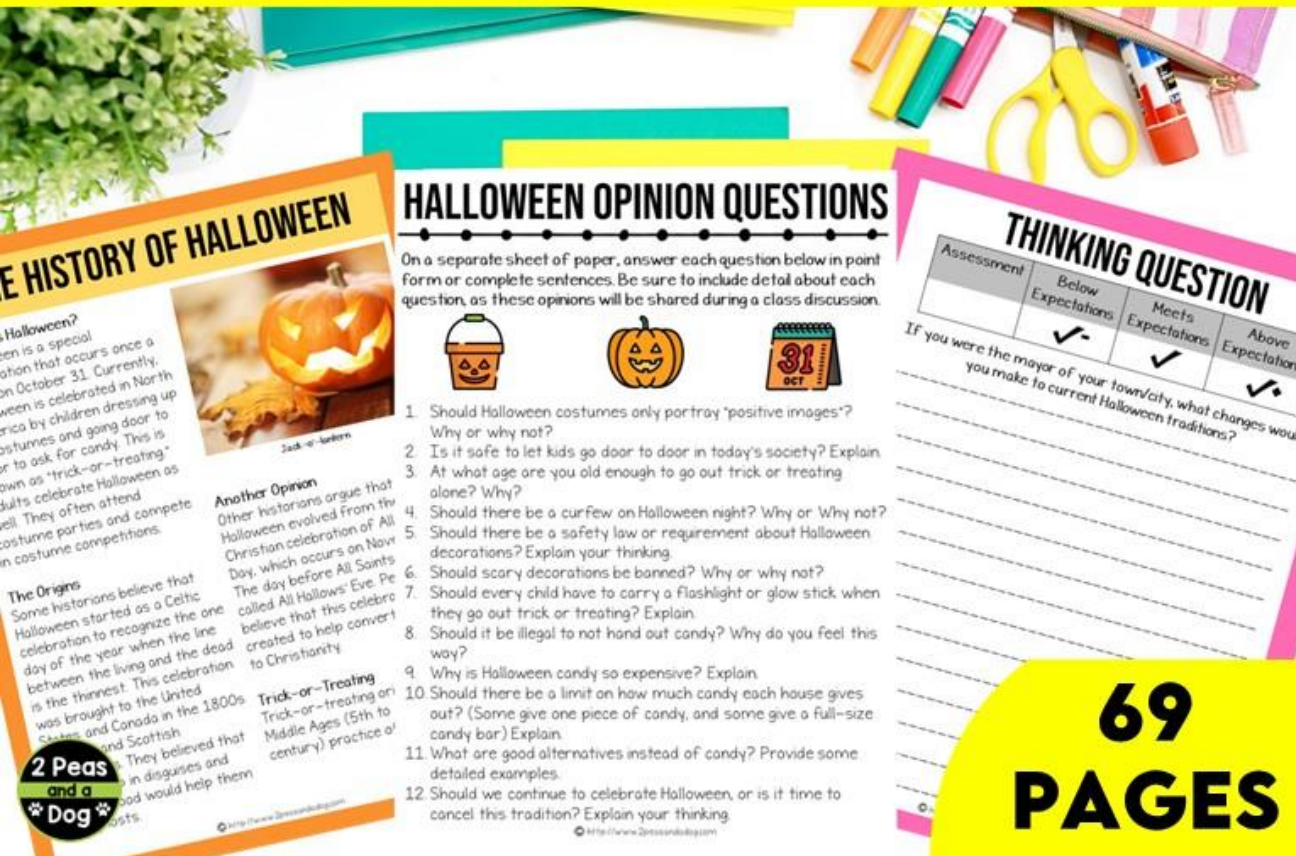


HALLOWEEN UNIT

PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS



RESOURCE INCLUDES

- ✓ 5 Literacy Lessons
- ✓ Detailed Teacher Instructions
- ✓ Graphic Organizers
- ✓ Answer Keys & Rubrics
- ✓ Assessment Options
- ✓ Student Choice & Differentiation
- ✓ PDF & Google Slides™ Formats

“Excellent resource! Great articles, relevant comprehension questions, options for differentiation, and many assessments included.” – Siobhan O.




2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON 1 – THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

What is Halloween?

Halloween is a special celebration that occurs once a year on October 31. Currently, Halloween is celebrated in North America by children dressing up in costumes and going door to door to ask for candy. This is known as "trick-or-treating." Adults celebrate Halloween as well. They often attend costume parties and compete in costume competitions.



Jack-o'-lantern

The Origins

Some historians believe that Halloween started as a Celtic celebration to recognize the one day of the year when the line between the living and the dead is the thinnest. This celebration was brought to the United States and Canada in the 1800s by Irish and Scottish immigrants. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

Another Opinion

Other historians argue that Halloween evolved from the Christian celebration of All Saints Day, which occurs on November 1. The day before All Saints Day was called All Hallows' Eve. People believe that this celebration was created to help convert the Celts to Christianity.

Trick-or-Treating

Trick-or-treating originated in the Middle Ages (5th to the 15th century) practice of souling.

- ✓ Regular & Modified Articles
- ✓ Comprehension Questions
- ✓ Journal Questions

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

What is Halloween?

Halloween is a special day that happens once a year on October 31. Halloween is celebrated in North America. Children dress up in costumes and go door to door to ask for candy. This is known as "trick-or-treating." Adults celebrate Halloween as well. They often attend costume parties.

How Did It Start?

Some people believe that Halloween started as a Celtic celebration. They believed that on this one day of the year, the line between the living and the dead is the thinnest.

This celebration was brought to Canada and the United States in the 1800s by Irish and Scottish settlers. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

Different Opinion

Not everyone feels this is how Halloween started. Other people argue that Halloween came from the Christian celebration of All Saints Day, which occurs on November 1. The day before All Saints Day was called All Hallows' Eve.

Trick-or-Treating

Trick-or-treating developed from the Middle Ages (5th to the 15th century) practice of souling. During this time, the poor would go knocking on doors and offer to pray for dead relatives' souls. In exchange, they would be given food known as soul cakes.

When this tradition began to include children, they would provide entertainment like songs, poems or tricks for the homeowners. Children would receive nuts, fruit or coins as a thank you for their efforts. This turned into children dressing up before they went out entertaining. This was known as guising.

Modern Halloween Traditions

Other modern Halloween traditions include: carving pumpkins, bobbing for apples, corn mazes, school costume parades, Halloween costume parties, and visiting haunted houses.

Before pumpkins became the preferred decoration, people would carve out turnips, beets or potatoes. These jack-o-lanterns were placed on porches to ward off evil spirits.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON 2 – HALLOWEEN OPINION WRITING

HALLOWEEN OPINION QUESTIONS

On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question below in point form or complete sentences. Be sure to include detail about each question, as these opinions will be shared during a class discussion.



1. Should Halloween costumes only portray "positive images"? Why or why not?
2. Is it safe to let kids go door to door in today's society? Explain.
3. At what age are you old enough to go out trick or treating alone? Why?
4. Should there be a curfew on Halloween night? Why or Why not?
5. Should there be a safety law or requirement about Halloween decorations? Explain your thinking.

Students are provided with 12 opinion-based questions that require them to write down their thoughts to prepare for a class discussion.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON 3 – CLASS DISCUSSION & WRITING

HALLOWEEN FISHBOWL PARTICIPATION TRACKER


| Student Name | Question #1 – 12 | Answer Quality ✓- ✓ ✓+ |
|--------------|------------------|---------------------------|
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Students participate in a fishbowl discussion as a class then follow up with writing a paragraph or an essay.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON 4 – PODCAST LESSON

| COST OF LIVING  | |
|---|--|
| Halloween Stores Pre-Listening | |
| What reminds you of Halloween? Explain. | |
| Have you ever shopped at a Halloween-specific store? If yes, what did you buy? | |
| Do you think Halloween-specific stores are profitable? Why or why not? | |
| Why do you think Halloween decorations and candy are cheaper after Halloween? | |

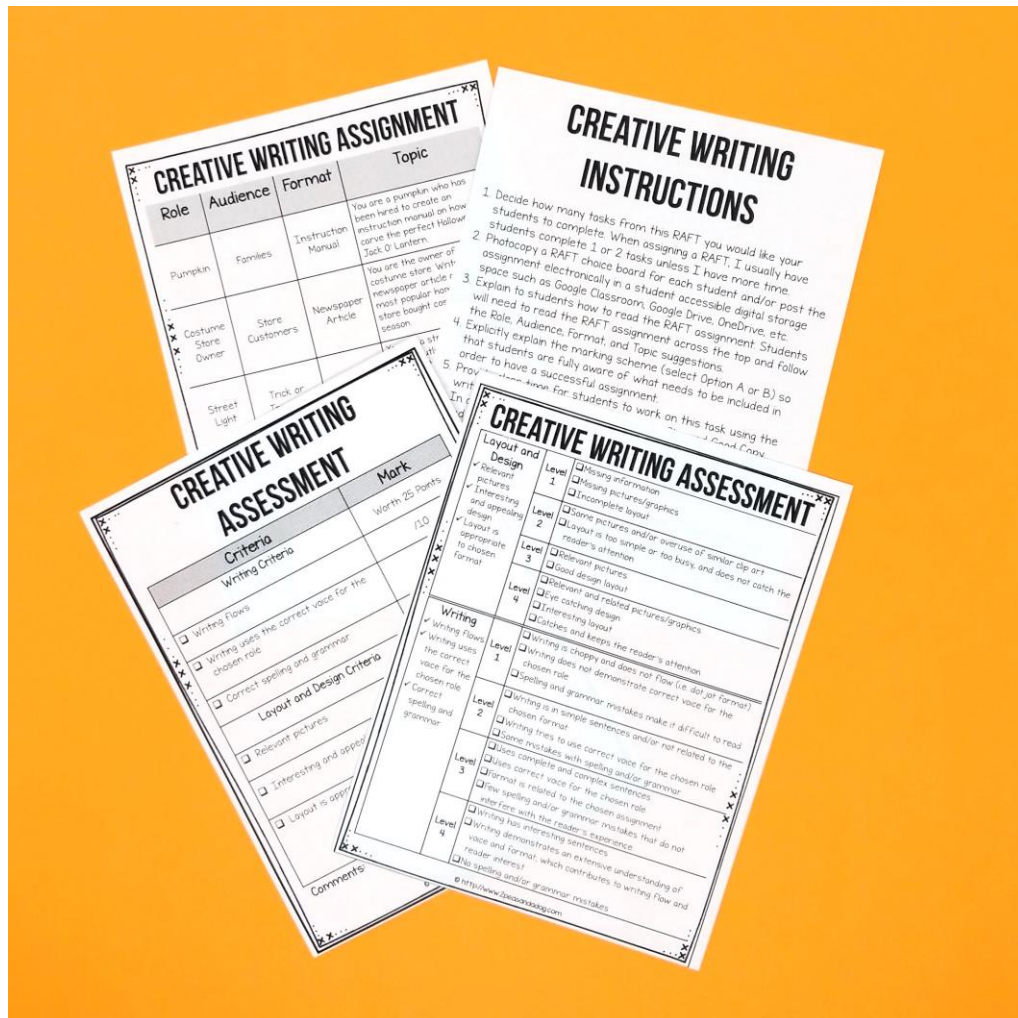
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Students will examine how Halloween stores make money as they are only open for a few months in a year.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON 5 – CREATIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT



Students select 1 of 5 writing prompts and write in role as their specific character.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



CREATIVE WRITING ASSESSMENT



| Criteria | Mark |
|---|-----------------|
| Writing Criteria | Worth 25 Points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing flows | /10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing uses the correct voice for the chosen role | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correct spelling and grammar | |
| Layout and Design Criteria | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant pictures | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interesting and appealing design | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Layout is appropriate for chosen format | /5 |
| Total Points | /50 |
| Final Mark | % |

CREATIVE WRITING ASSESSMENT

| Layout and Design | Level | Criteria |
|---|---------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant pictures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interesting and appealing design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Layout is appropriate to | Level 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Missing information <input type="checkbox"/> Missing pictures/graphics <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete layout |
| | Level 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Some pictures and/or overuse of similar clip art. <input type="checkbox"/> Layout is too simple or too busy and does not catch the reader's attention. |
| | Level 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant pictures <input type="checkbox"/> Good design layout |
| | Level 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Some mistakes with spelling and/or grammar. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses complete and complex sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct voice for the chosen role. <input type="checkbox"/> Format is related to the chosen assignment. <input type="checkbox"/> Few spelling and/or grammar mistakes that do not interfere with the reader's experience. |
| Spelling and Grammar | Level 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing has interesting sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing demonstrates an extensive understanding of voice and format, which contributes to writing flow and reader interest. |
| | Level 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> No spelling and/or grammar mistakes. |

PARAGRAPH WRITING ASSESSMENT

Student Name: _____
Class: _____

Level 4
Ideas are organized into a well-developed paragraph format with detailed transitions and transition words linking ideas. Punctuation is correct.

Level 3
Ideas are organized into a paragraph format (opening sentence, closing sentence). Grammar mistakes, but these mistakes do not interfere with the flow of the paragraph.

Level 2
Ideas are organized into a simple paragraph format. Some spelling and/or grammar mistakes.

Level 1
Ideas are not organized into proper paragraph format (opening sentence, closing sentence) for three reasons, concluding sentence).

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ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

LESSON FORMATS



PDF

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



DIGITAL

✓ Google Slides

**RESOURCE CAN BE USED
IN-PERSON OR ONLINE**