

WARM-UP:

1 Work in pairs. In turns, answer the questions.



1. Where (from what continent) do pumpkins come from?
2. What is the name of the Halloween decoration made with pumpkins?
3. How do we call (informally) the insides of a pumpkin? *Tip: think of animals.*
4. Have you ever carved a pumpkin for Halloween? Why? / Why not?

Pumpkin trivia

Try to guess:

5. According to Guinness World Records, how much does the heaviest pumpkin weigh? Is it between:
a) 250 - 500 kg, b) 500 – 750 kg, c) 750 - 1,000 kg, d) 1,000 kg – 1500 kg or e) 1,500 kg - 2,000 kg?
6. Which US state produces the most pumpkins? Is it:
a) Texas, b) Arizona, c) Indiana, d) Illinois, or e) California?
7. How long does it take for pumpkins to mature? Is it:
a) 1-15 days, b) 15-30 days, c) 30-60 days, d) 60-90 days or e) 90-120 days?
8. How much water is there in a pumpkin? Is it:
a) 15%, b) 25%, c) 65%, d) 80% or e) 90%?

Trivia questions inspired by <https://www.quiztriviagames.com/pumpkin-quiz/>

VOCABULARY:

2 Translate these words and phrases into your language. Ask your friends or use a dictionary to help you.



- a pound – 1 pound = kg
- a vine –
- ripe –
- to sow –
- to breed –
- annually –
- to cultivate –
- boundaries –
- to facilitate –
- remarkable –
- staggering –



If you need English definitions you can look them up in OALD 😊 www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com

Don't forget to mark the words you didn't know before with a star ☆

3 Complete the text with the correct form of some of the words from the previous task.



It's this season of the year again! Halloween is almost upon us. It is celebrated **A.** on the 31st of October, right after the pumpkins are ready for harvest and around 75-115 days after they were **B.** It's a tradition **C.** all around the world, especially in the US. On this occasion you can see **D.** (not only) pumpkin decorations around the buildings, interesting & scary costumes, as well as plenty of kids going trick or treating.



Pumpkin icon: [Flaticon.com](https://www.flaticon.com)



LISTENING:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3cc2QeSfWw>

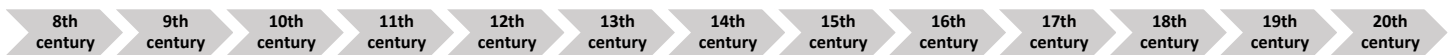


4 Watch the video. Answer the questions.

- How many pounds of pumpkins do US farmers harvest every year for Halloween?
.....
- What proportion of pumpkins is made for decorations, and what for puree? Mark it on the pie chart.



- What's the botanical family of pumpkin?
.....
- When did American Indians teach pilgrims how to grow pumpkins? Mark the time on the timeline.



- What is the worst enemy of farmers growing pumpkins?
.....
- Do farmers walk around the pumpkin farms before it's time to harvest pumpkins?
Yes / No
- Is the canned pumpkin the same as the pumpkin used for decorations?
Yes / No



READING:

<https://www.theguardian.com/food/2022/oct/11/maverick-champion-pumpkin-travis-gienger>

5 Read the article. Decide if the sentences are TRUE or FALSE.



- The annual weigh-off happens on the grounds of the Half Moon Bay festival.
TRUE / FALSE
- Travis Gienger won the weigh-off.
TRUE / FALSE
- The pumpkin described in the article sprouted from the common seeds one can buy at a local shop.
TRUE / FALSE
- Minnesota is a perfect place to grow pumpkins.
TRUE / FALSE

6 Read the article once again (if need be) and answer the questions.



- What's the size of the biggest pumpkin in the world?
.....
- What do you need to grow giant pumpkins?
.....
- Where will Maverick, the pumpkin described in the article, be on display?
.....
.....



SPEAKING:

7 Work in pairs. Describe the picture and answer the questions.



Source: <https://pixabay.com/images/id-2878159/>

1. Why do you think the girl is on the pumpkin farm?
2. What are the pros and cons of farming pumpkins?
3. Describe the time when you (or somebody you know) celebrated Halloween.

8 Work in pairs. Discuss.



You and your schoolmates are at a student exchange in the US. Your American host is organising a Halloween party and has asked you to call one of your friends to invite them. In the phone call discuss the following aspects:

[time & date]

[food]

[music]

[clothing]