

Instrucciones: a) Duración: 1 h.30m. b) No se permite el uso de diccionario. c) La puntuación de las preguntas está indicada en las mismas. d) Los alumnos deberán realizar completa una de las dos opciones A o B, sin poder mezclar las respuestas.

OPTION A: "Halloween, more than an American tradition"

- 1 Halloween, a Celtic Irish tradition and one of the world's oldest holidays, is still celebrated today in many countries. All
- 2 Souls' Day, a festivity two days after Halloween, is the most important part of the celebration for many people in Mexico,
- 3 Latin America and Spain. In Ireland and Canada, where Halloween was once a frightening and superstitious time of year, the
- 4 festivity is now celebrated as in the United States, with trick-or-treating, costume parties, and fun for all ages. Although most
- 5 people believe it is an American holiday, the custom was brought to America in the 1840's by Irish immigrants escaping their
- 6 country's potato famine.
- 7 The word "Halloween" comes from a contraction of "All Hallows Eve". The expression referred to the eve of "All
- 8 Hallows Day" (or "All Saints Day"), the Catholic festivity celebrated on November 1st.
- 9 Different practices and symbols are associated to Halloween. The custom of trick-or-treat is believed to have originated
- 10 not with the Irish Celts, but with a ninth-century European tradition called *souling*, in which early Christians walked from
- 11 village to village asking for "soul cakes" or square pieces of bread with currants. The more soul cakes the beggars received,
- 12 the more prayers they promised to say for the dead relatives of the donors.
- 13 The carved pumpkin, also called Jack-o-lantern, is perhaps the most famous icon of the holiday. This custom probably
- 14 comes from Irish folklore. The Irish used turnips originally. But when the immigrants came to America, they found that
- 15 pumpkins were far more abundant than turnips, and so the Jack-o-lantern became an emptied pumpkin in America.

I * COMPREHENSION (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)

ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

1. **How is Halloween celebrated nowadays in Ireland? Explain.**
2. **Why is Halloween not an American tradition?**
3. **Justify the reason why Halloween is a word with a Catholic origin.**

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

4. **It seems that the trick-or-treating tradition doesn't come from the Celts.**
5. **In the old days, Irish Jack-o-lanterns were emptied turnips.**

II * USE OF ENGLISH (3 points: questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)

6. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR "**entertainment**" (noun).
7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE WORD / EXPRESSION MEANING "**lack of food for an extended period of time**".
8. WHICH WORD DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME MEANING? **terrified / scared / worried / frightened**.
9. COMPLETE THE SERIES WITH ANOTHER WORD FROM THE SAME SEMANTIC GROUP. **apparition / spirit / phantom / ...**
10. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT OPTION. "**The more you drive the driver you will become**". (**good / better / best**)
11. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE ACTIVE VOICE. "**The custom of Halloween was brought to America in the 1840's by Irish immigrants**."
12. REWRITE THE SENTENCE WITHOUT CHANGING ITS MEANING. BEGIN AS INDICATED.
"**You ought to spend more time with your children this year**." You had better ...
13. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS. "**The Jack-o-Lantern custom probably comes from Irish folklore**".

III * PRODUCTION (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE PROPOSED TOPIC AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:
What is your favourite celebration of the year? Why?