

CrossTalk

October CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2004



Halloween is an

excellent opportunity for both young and old to dress up as something or someone different for a while, go “trick or treating” and attend costume parties.

Masks, which come in many different shapes and sizes, were once worn for protection against evil spirits. In the past, people believed that on Halloween night, souls of dead people and other **entities** came back to Earth. People **donned** masks because they thought that it was a perfect way to hide from these horrible spirits. They could **blend in** and not be seen or caught by these lost souls.

Witches have been a part of Halloween for a long time. In the Middle Ages, people believed that witches belonged to **cults** that were devoted to Satan. They were thought to have weekly meetings called Witches Sabbath, and the most important one was held on the **eve** of Halloween. On this night they ate, drank and had a great time.

Then they would change into other forms and cast spells on people and generally cause **havoc**. They would be **accompanied** by their cats and at the end of the night they would fly off on their broomsticks.

Lastly, Halloween just wouldn't be Halloween  without pumpkins. Pumpkins, are used as jack-o-lanterns by carving faces on them. This **practice** goes back to an Irish **legend** involving a farmer named Jack. He tricked the Devil into a tree and told him that he would let him down only if he never sent him to Hell. The Devil agreed. When Jack died, he was refused entry into Heaven and the Devil wouldn't let him into Hell. So, Jack carved out one of his turnips, put a candle in it, and wandered Earth trying to find a resting place.

Have a happy Halloween everyone!!

Story by Grace



Glossary

(These words are in **color** in the story)

entities 魔物 **donned** 被った **blend in** 混和する **cults** 宗派 **eve** 前夜
havoc 大破壊 **accompanied** 随行する **practice** 慣行 **legend** 伝説

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: Well, we stopped the presses for this one! Yes! The West Japan Cricket Tourney was finally held at Tobe Athletic Ground. The MCC (that's our team) came second out of 5 teams after winning our first two games, only to go on and lose in a closely fought final to Oita. But win or lose, it was a great experience and a very successful event. Next year,..... we'll win!!!

Junko Says: I have had little time off recently as many of you can imagine, but this month on the 31st we are going to have a Halloween Party at the school. This event will turn out to be a great opportunity for everybody to let their hair down and have some fun. So, everyone, come along, wear outrageous costumes, get into the spirit of the night, and ask your friends along too! Check with me in the office or with your teachers for details.



Grace Says: I spent four exhilarating days in Tokyo last month. I visited several museums and gardens, Ginza and Tokyo Tower to get a night view of the city. I also took a tour with Hato Bus, which included a pleasant bay cruise, and walked around in different neighbourhoods simply soaking up the pulse of the city!! I had some free time on my last day and managed to do a little early Christmas shopping too!!

Naomi Says: Sadly, I have to leave Matsuyama. I have really enjoyed my time in Japan... almost entirely in Matsuyama, but, regretfully, now family commitments mean I shall have to return to New Zealand. I wish everyone at Crossroads, my students and the staff, the very best of luck with your lessons and your lives ahead. Perhaps I will get the chance to return someday and meet you all again, who knows?



Greg says: Well last month was full of activities. The Cricket in Tobe was great fun, although I was trying to find the support crew from Crossroads (students) and could only find 1 student who came out to cheer.....albeit not for our team.....but she was there. There were also a host of parties for one of the cricket members and tournament MVP, Dave, who sadly left the Asian shores for New Zealand, with a few pit-stops on the way. Now that the daily parties are done, I have a lot of sleep to catch up on..

Adam Says: Have you ever thought about some of the natural wonders of the world? Or perhaps you haven't.....? The city I come from in Canada shows a great example of a natural wonder. The natural wonder I'm speaking of is Niagara Falls. This magnificent wonder can be viewed 365 days a year and is very breathtaking. If you have any curious questions, please don't hesitate to ask me.



Natasha Says: When I was in Moscow, I had eye-surgery. Eye-surgery techniques in Russian are the best in the world. At the hospital I met many patients from countries such as America, Germany and Japan. For me, glasses and lenses were not comfortable...so I decided on surgery. I had a thorough examination for 3 hours, then, only 5 minutes of surgery. After 1 hour, ALL my problems were gone! I hear the same surgery costs too much in Japan. In Russia the price is very reasonable,...so I recommend you fly to Moscow. Do not worry, they speak English there.

Yuka Says: My daughter began to read the Japanese version of "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" and she said, "It's so interesting that I cannot stop reading it!" These words made me decide to read that thick book (it has 766 pages) as well. I hope I will be enjoying the wonderful world of Harry Potter all this autumn.



A Word From You

Katsuyuki Says: I went mountain climbing in Nagano with my friends. At first we went to Sarukara at the foot of Shirouma Mountain, but it was raining heavily so we changed our plans and went to Tsugaike and stayed at Tsugaike Mountain villa. The next day it was fine so we went to Norikura Mountain, Habuba Big Pond and reached Renge Hot Spring. We want to re-challenge Shirouma Mountain the next chance we get.



Yukiko Says: I went to Indonesia with my daughter. This was the first time for me to visit an Asian country. I was so impressed by

Indonesia, especially Bali. Bali is a fantastic island. We were so attracted by the elegance of Legon Dancing that we enjoyed watching it twice.

Notice Board

Last chance!!
Crossroads is offering a 10% discount to all new students in our New School Opening Campaign... But, only to the end of this month. So tell all your friends not to miss out!

BIG Halloween Party!

Place: Crossroads'
Date: Sun. 31st. Oct. 2004
Time: 6:30pm to.....?
Wear: A Costume!!
Bring: food/drinks and.....all your friends!!!
There will be prizes, Fortune telling, Ghost stories.... and lots and lots of FUN!!!

Easy English Lesson

VERBS, VERBS, VERBS!

Some verbs are *SO* inconvenient!! For *irregular* verbs we have to change the spelling completely to get the past tense:

Buy \Rightarrow ~~buied~~ \Rightarrow bought
Samantha bought an impressionist painting at an auction last Sunday.

Wear \Rightarrow ~~wearred~~ \Rightarrow wore
Kyle wore an elegant suit at his brother's wedding.

See \Rightarrow ~~seed~~ \Rightarrow saw
We saw an interesting play at the theater.

Catch \Rightarrow ~~catched~~ \Rightarrow caught
Trevor and Jackie caught many fish on their fishing trip.

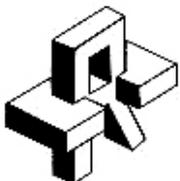
Net News

NET LESSONS:

Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS to study? Try our *lessons on the internet!* It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *all on-line!* Call for details.

NET SITE OF THE MONTH: If you want to be frightened at Halloween, you can read some scary stories at this web site: www.halloweenghoststories.com

Don't forget to take a look at the **NET NOTEBOOK** in our Open-house lounge. You'll find games, news and English study sites.



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