

English:

I am going to talk about Halloween, an American custom that is now celebrated around the world.

Halloween is celebrated on October 31 every day. The name Halloween originates from All Hallows Eve.

The tradition did not actually start in America. It is based on the ancient Celtic festival called Samhain. During Samhain, people would build and light bonfires and put on costumes to chase away ghosts. During the 8th century, Pope Gregory III stated that November 1 was a day to honor saints; it became known as All Saints Day. Some traditions of Samhain, such as wearing costumes, were incorporated into All Saints Day. Later, the day before All Saints Day became known as All Hallows Eve, and then Halloween. Today, Halloween is still associated with ghosts and ghouls, with ghost and witch costumes among the most popular dress up choices for both kids and adults.

Halloween was brought to America by the early colonists although it was not celebrated widely in the United States until the 19th century, when immigrants from different parts of Europe, including Ireland, adopted the custom.

Today, Halloween is celebrated not only in America, but all over the world. In many places in the world, children dress up in costumes and go from house to house asking for 'a trick or treat' (a treat being candy)— meaning that if they are not given a treat, they will play a trick on that household. Many children carry plastic buckets shaped like a pumpkin to carry their candy; it is also customary to buy a large pumpkin and carve a crazy or scary face on it, and then put a candle inside the pumpkin. But why pumpkins?

Pumpkins became associated with Halloween in America in the 19th century; before that, turnips were carved with scary faces to scare away ghosts and ghouls. But when immigrants came to America, they started carving faces into pumpkins, which were native to the Americas and larger, and easier to carve.

Halloween is one of the most popular celebrations in America and increasingly, around the world, particularly for kids, who love dressing up in scary or funny costumes and going to parties or walking around their neighborhood to collect a lot of treats, or candy. Many adults also celebrate Halloween by dressing up and gathering with friends.

Simplified Chinese

我要讲的是万圣节，一个现在世界各地都会庆祝的美国习俗。

万圣节是每天（年）10月31日。万圣节这个名字来源于“万圣节前夜”。

实际上，这一传统并非起源于美国，而是基于古代凯尔特人的一个节日——“萨温节”。在萨温节期间，人们会建造并点燃篝火，并穿上节日服装来驱鬼。在8世纪，教皇格里高利三世宣布11月1日是纪念圣徒的日子，随后被成为“万圣节”。凯尔特人的一些传统，例如服饰穿着也被纳入“万圣节”庆祝之中。后来，万圣节前一天被称为“万圣节前夜”，然后演化为“万圣节”。今天，万圣节仍然与鬼魂和食尸鬼相关，其中鬼魂和女巫服装是最受儿童和成人欢迎的装扮。

万圣节是由早期殖民者带入美国的，直到19世纪才开始成为美国的大型节日，当时，来自欧洲不同地区（包括爱尔兰）的移民都接纳了这一习俗。

今天，万圣节不仅是美国的庆祝节日，它已成为全世界的一个庆祝活动。在世界上许多地方，孩子们会穿着化妆服挨家挨户地要求“不给糖就捣蛋”——这意味着如果不给他们糖果，他们就会对那个家庭进行恶作剧。孩子们会拿着南瓜形状的塑料桶来装糖果；另一个习俗是买一个大南瓜，在上面刻一个疯狂或恐怖的脸，然后在南瓜里面放一根蜡烛。但为什么选择南瓜呢？

南瓜在19世纪成为美国万圣节不可或缺的主要元素。在此之前，是在萝卜上刻上可怕的面孔，以吓走鬼魂和食尸鬼。当移民来到美国时，他们开始在南瓜上雕刻不同的面孔。这些原产于美洲的南瓜，非常大，而且更容易雕刻。

万圣节是美国最受欢迎的庆祝活动之一，并且在已在世界各地蔓延，特别是对于孩子们来说，他们喜欢穿着可怕或有趣的化妆服，参加派对或在附近从邻居那里收集更多零食或糖果。

Traditional Chinese

我要講的是萬聖節，一個現在世界各地都會慶祝的美國習俗。

萬聖節是每天（年）10月31日。萬聖節這個名字來源於“萬聖節前夜”。

實際上，這一傳統並非起源於美國，而是基於古代凱爾特人的一個節日——“薩溫節”。在薩溫節期間，人們會建造並點燃篝火，並穿上節日服裝來驅鬼。在8世紀，教皇格里高利三世宣布11月1日是紀念聖徒的日子，隨後被成為“萬聖節”。凱爾特人的一些傳統，例如服飾穿著也被納入“萬聖節”慶祝之中。後來，萬聖節前一天被稱為“萬聖節前夜”，然後演化為“萬聖節”。今天，萬聖節仍然與鬼魂和食屍鬼相關，其中鬼魂和女巫服裝是最受兒童和成人歡迎的裝扮。

萬聖節是由早期殖民者帶入美國的，直到 19 世紀才開始成為美國的大型節日，當時，來自歐洲不同地區（包括愛爾蘭）的移民都接納了這一習俗。

今天，萬聖節不僅是美國的慶祝節日，它已成為全世界的一個慶祝活動。在世界上許多地方，孩子們會穿著化妝服挨家挨戶地要求“不給糖就搗蛋”——這意味著如果不給他們糖果，他們就會對那個家庭進行惡作劇。孩子們會拿著南瓜形狀的塑料桶來裝糖果；另一個習俗是買一個大南瓜，在上面刻一個瘋狂或恐怖的臉，然後在南瓜裡面放一根蠟燭。但為什麼選擇南瓜呢？

南瓜在 19 世紀成為美國萬聖節不可或缺的主要元素。在此之前，是在蘿蔔上刻上可怕的面孔，以嚇走鬼魂和食屍鬼。當移民來到美國時，他們開始在南瓜上雕刻不同的面孔。這些原產於美洲的南瓜，非常大，而且更容易雕刻。

萬聖節是美國最受歡迎的慶祝活動之一，並且已在世界各地蔓延，特別是對於孩子們來說，他們喜歡穿著可怕或有趣的化妝服，參加派對或在附近從鄰居那裡收集更多零食或糖果。