

**Topic: Halloween / Elections**

**Let's get started . . .** Have you ever worn a costume as a child or adult? Describe a costume you wore. When and where did you wear it? Why did you choose that costume?

**Story:** Meri and Molly dress up for Halloween. Molly wears a princess costume and Meri is in a ballerina outfit. Their friend is dressed as a pirate. They walk together from house to house, saying "Trick or treat!" and getting candy. Meri and Molly's new neighbors do not have a light on at the front door. So, they skip that house.



But, the new neighbors are inside their house, sitting in the dark. They are new to the U.S. and they don't want to open the door to strangers in costumes. About 9:00pm, the doorbell rings. They look through the peephole and see three tall people in scary costumes. They don't answer the door.

**Would you open your door at 9:00pm to the three tall people, or not? Explain. Do your children go trick or treating on Halloween? Why or why not?**





**In pairs, talk about one or more of these questions.**

1. How do you feel about Halloween? Do you have any similar holidays in your native culture?
2. Do you visit your neighbors' houses on holidays in your native culture? Explain.



**Share with the larger group something you learned.**

**Interview** 3 people about their Halloween plans. Write down their names. Ask them, "On October 31<sup>st</sup>, will you . . .?" And then write their answers for each box, yes or no. Ask them to explain.

Name	 Go to a party?	 Go trick-or-treating?	 Give candy?	 <u>Not</u> give candy?	 Work?

**Hot Topic!** There is an election on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Will you or a family member vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup>? How will you do it?

**Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups about voting -**

Describe an important vote that affected your life or the lives of your family members.

What method of voting have you used in your native country or in the U.S.? Give examples.

When do you want your vote to be secret?  
When do you want your vote to be public?  
Give examples.

Is voting a good way to decide something?  
Why or why not? Give examples.



Show of hands

Lisa	yes
Bob	no
Hong	yes
Bill	no

Roll call



Voice vote



Secret ballot

**Activity** - plan a class vote on one or more issues. Choose a type of vote from the above or some other method. Remember that it's ok to **abstain**.

**Dialogue (Conversation)** - Practice one of the conversations. Then, change the conversation. Practice in pairs and share your new conversation with the group.

**Bill and Hong** are at a meeting at work with their team of 20 people. They are voting on whether or not to celebrate birthdays at work. "Aye" means "yes". "Nay" means "no".

<i>Harder</i>	<i>Easier</i>
<p>Hong: Well, let's take a vote. Do we want to celebrate birthdays at work? All in favor say "Aye"</p> <p>Some people: Aye.</p> <p>Hong: All opposed say "Nay".</p> <p>Some people: Nay.</p> <p>Bill: The "ayes" have it!</p>	<p>Hong: Let's vote. Do you want to celebrate birthdays? Yes?</p> <p>Some people: Yes.</p> <p>Hong: No?</p> <p>Some people: No.</p> <p>Bill: There are more "yeses!"</p>

**New vocabulary: for Halloween-** costume, choose, princess, ballerina, outfit, dressed as, pirate, "trick or treat", skip, doorbell, peephole, tiptoe, harvest; **for voting** - election, information, show of hands, voice vote, secret ballot, roll call, public, issues, abstain, "whether or not", celebrate, aye, nay

**Keep talking about it this week:** Ask a coworker or friend: "What do you think of Halloween?" Write down their answers and share at Talk Time next week.

**More on voting:** Register to vote in King County at  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/Elections/Registration.aspx>.  
 Learn about the current election with a video voter's guide at:  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/KCTV/VVG.aspx>