QUESTION SHEET

The Printable Halloween Quiz

Twenty-four questions in four rounds, written to be read out loud. Print the host sheet, print an answer sheet per team, and turn the lights down.

4 rounds · 24 questions · about 40 min

ROUND 1 — Where Halloween came from

The old customs behind the costumes and the pumpkins.

1. Halloween grew out of which Celtic festival, held at the end of the harvest?

- A Lughnasadh
- B Beltane
- C Samhain
- D Imbolc

2. The word Halloween is a shortened form of which phrase?

(open question)

3. Before pumpkins, what did people in Ireland and Scotland carve into Halloween lanterns?

- A Apples
- B Turnips
- C Beetroot
- D Potatoes

4. In the Irish folk tale behind the jack-o'-lantern, who did Stingy Jack trick?

- A A leprechaun
- B The king of Ireland
- C A giant
- D The Devil

5. In Scotland, what is the traditional name for children going door to door in costume at Halloween?

- A Mumming
- B Souling
- C Guising
- D Wassailing

6. The earliest known use of the phrase "trick or treat" in print, from 1927, appeared in a newspaper in which country?

- A Ireland
- B Scotland
- C The United States
- D Canada

ROUND 2 — Halloween on screen

Crowd-pleaser round. Expect arguments about round two being too easy.

7. In the film Halloween, what is the name of the masked killer?

- A Michael Myers
- B Norman Bates
- C Freddy Krueger
- D Jason Voorhees

8. In Ghostbusters, what giant figure stomps through New York in the finale?

(open question)

9. How many Sanderson sisters are there in Hocus Pocus?

- A Four
- B Five
- C Two
- D Three

10. In The Nightmare Before Christmas, Jack Skellington is the Pumpkin King of which town?

- A Spook Hollow
- B Pumpkin Patch
- C Halloween Town
- D Christmas Town

11. In Psycho, Marion Crane checks into which motel?

- A The Hollow Inn
- B The Crystal Lake Motel
- C The Overlook Motel
- D The Bates Motel

12. In E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, what costume does E.T. wear to go out on Halloween?

- A A vampire
- B A ghost
- C A witch
- D A pumpkin

ROUND 3 — Monsters and legends

The books and the folklore the films came from.

13. Who wrote Frankenstein?

- A Robert Louis Stevenson
- B Edgar Allan Poe
- C Mary Shelley
- D Bram Stoker

14. In Mary Shelley's novel, who is Frankenstein?

(open question)

15. In Bram Stoker's novel, Count Dracula's castle is in which region?

- A Bohemia
- B Wallachia
- C Bavaria
- D Transylvania

16. In Washington Irving's story, the Headless Horseman haunts which place?

(open question)

17. In films and folklore, what is said to kill a werewolf?

- A A silver bullet
- B Garlic
- C Sunlight
- D A wooden stake

18. What is a group of witches traditionally called?

- A A conclave
- B A cauldron
- C A circle
- D A coven

ROUND 4 — Halloween elsewhere

The harder round. Worth playing for double points.

19. In Mexico, the decorated sugar skulls made for the Day of the Dead are called what?

- A Calaveras
- B Ofrendas
- C Piñatas
- D Alebrijes

20. Which flower is laid on Day of the Dead altars, its colour and scent said to guide the spirits home?

- A The chrysanthemum
- B The rose
- C The marigold
- D The lily

21. Which Massachusetts town, home of the witch trials of 1692, now draws huge crowds every October?

- A Salem
- B Lexington
- C Plymouth
- D Concord

22. In Ireland, a fruit loaf baked for Halloween traditionally hides a ring for one lucky slice. What is the loaf called?

- A Simnel cake
- B Barmbrack
- C Soda bread
- D Lardy cake

23. In the Philippines, where do families traditionally spend 1 and 2 November?

(open question)

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24. In which country is 31 October also Reformation Day, a public holiday in several regions?

- A Italy
- B France
- C Spain
- D Germany