

## LESSON 14 (FOURTEEN)

### TRICK or TREAT

想不作弄请款待

A: Hello, Gee, how are you doing?

W: I am good, thank you. How are you getting on these days?

A: I am great, thanks. You see, the end of Oct is drawing near, do you have any program?

W: Yes, we do. You know, the end of Oct is Halloween ['i:n], do you have that day as holiday in China?

A: No, we don't. I don't know what Halloween is.

W: Well, simply speaking, Halloween is the short cut of All Hallows' Eve, which means the evening before All Hallows' Day. It is a popular western religious holiday, when people in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other western countries and Christian communities are in memorizing all hollows, that is to say, honoring the saints and praying for the recently departed souls who have yet to reach Heaven.

A: I have no idea about it at all. I heard of the words "Trick or treat" popular on Halloween, what does it mean?

W: Yah, about a month before, many families who believe in Christianity or not would decorate their home front with pumpkin and various lights, spider web, some even put on skeleton, symbols of ghost, on Halloween, Children are usually dressed themselves in costumes, some of them look like ghosts, some look like spiderman, some look like fairy girls, in whatever models they are interested. They are visiting their neighbour door by door, asking candies and snacks with words "Trick or treat".

A: It must be fun! Then people may have to prepare lots of candies and snacks that day.

W: Yes, people in these countries love that tradition and ready to prepare candies for children, some of them prepare very good candies to wish good luck. Some people leave candies and cookies at the front door unattended if they are outdoors.

A: I was told that Halloween is something like Chinese "Zhongyuan Festival", Does it make sense?

W: Something is similar, yes, people who celebrate the tradition believe that day souls of the departed or ghosts will come out of the grave and would be the most close to their relatives, to meet them with soul. On the Chinese "Zhongyuan festival", it is said the passed predecessors come out of the grave to collect money from their offspring. People usually clean the graveyard and burn the private-paper-made money (symbols) to respect their predecessors.

A: Interesting! That is the reason why some children would be dressed themselves as ghosts, meaning they are come out of grave to collect somethings or they will play tricked.

W: You are smart. Do you like join us that evening with your children, and we collect candies door by door to see who get the most.

A: I love to. I'll be ready that afternoon.

老朋友，你好啊？

还不错，谢谢。老伙计，你进来可好啊？

谢谢，进来很好。马上是十月底了，你有什么活动安排吗？

有啊！十月底是万圣节，你们中国有这个节日吗？

没有，我不知道什么是万圣节。

嗯，简单来说，万圣节是 All Hallows' Eve 的简写，意思是天下圣徒节前夜。那是西方国家一个流行的宗教节日，那天是美国，加拿大，澳大利亚，新西兰和其他西方国家，和基督教区域的人们纪念圣徒的日子。即是说，纪念圣人和祈祷近期去世的期待升天的灵魂。

我对此一点都不懂。我听到那天很流行一句话，“Trick or treat (想不作弄请款待)”，那是什么意思？

啊，大约一个月之前，信基督教或不信基督教的很多家庭就会用南瓜，各式各样的灯饰，蜘蛛网装饰在家门口，有的甚至摆上骷髅，鬼的形象装饰。小孩子通常会打扮成鬼，蜘蛛侠，仙女，他们喜爱的样子，然后挨家挨户去要糖果和点心，嘴上说，“Trick or treat”。

那挺好玩的，那天各家要准备好多糖果和点心呀。

是的，这些国家喜欢这个传统，各家乐意准备很多糖果和点心，有的会准备很好的糖果，祈祷好运。有些人如出门了，他们会留些糖果在门口随意拿取。

听说圣徒节之夜很像中国的中元节，有道理吗？

有点相似，庆祝这个传统的人们相信那天逝去的先人的灵魂会从墓地里出来，这是他们最接近他们的亲人，他们用灵魂和亲人相会。在中国的中元节那天，据说逝去的先人的会从墓地里出来向后人收钱，人们通常会打扫墓地，焚烧一些民间纸做的冥币来告慰先辈。

真有趣！那就是为什么孩子们要打扮成鬼神的样子，以为着他们是从墓地里出来收领糖果的，否则就会作弄一番。

你真聪明，那天你想带孩子出来和我们一起与那糖果吗？看看谁拿的多。

我很愿意去，那天下午我会准备好的。

## 可数名词的复数

1. 普通可数名词，后面直接 +s, 如：

Apple – apples, cat – cats, [...ts], bed – beds, [...dz], animal – animals;

2. 以 ch, sh, s, x, o, 结尾的普通可数名词，后面 + es, 如：

Bench – benches, fish – fishes, \* dish – dishes, class – classes, box – boxes, tomato – tomatoes, potatoes \* zoo – zoos,

3. 以 y 结尾，y 前面是辅音的，去 y, + ies, y 前面是元音的，直接 + s, 如：

Lady – ladies, country – countries,

Play – plays, boy – boys,

4. 特殊名词

Child – children, man – men, woman – women, [wimin], tooth – teeth, mouse – mice,

### Hear 和 hear of 的区别

1. Hear 表示听到什么声音，暗示听到了，如：I am hearing his speech. 我在听他的演讲。
2. Hear of 表示听到过（某事），如：Have you ever heard of “drone fighter”?
3. Hear 和 Listen 都表示听，但两者有不同，hear 指听到，listen 指听的行为，如：  
Listen to me, listen carefully. Keep listening. I listened but did not hear anything.  
I hear a crying over there, Is there anyone in need of help?

### Homework:

1. Listen to the record of the text as much as you can till you are familiar with it.
2. Make up sentences with “hear”, “hear of” and “listen”.
3. Keep in mind the plural form of typical nouns.
4. Ask a question you are interested.
5. Talk about something you know about Halloween in English.