#### Writing Prompt

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# Halloween Traditions of the World



By: Amanda Martin Elementary school music teacher; M.A.Ed. In Curriculum and Instruction



#### Introduction

Halloween is celebrated all over the world! In this writing prompt, students will examine how other children celebrate Halloween in different countries.

### Learning Objectives

(<u>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2</u>) Students will write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

#### **Materials Needed**

- Journals/notebooks
- Notebook paper
- Laptops/computers

#### Procedure

- 1. Inform students that Halloween is celebrated differently in other countries. On the board, display a chart. Ask students to share American Halloween traditions and activities and add those items to the chart.
- 2. Now, students will be briefly introduced to the traditions of seven other countries. <u>This video</u> provides a good overview to give students an idea of how each country celebrates Halloween.
- 3. Now, students will pick one of the following countries to research: Ireland, China, Mexico, England, Austria, Belgium, Germany. Students will use laptops/computers to conduct research in order to find more information about their particular country's Halloween traditions. Students will take their research and write an expository text. In their writing, students must inform readers about their chosen country's Halloween traditions. Opinions are not to be added into the writing. The purpose of the writing is to simply inform others. Allow students the majority of class time to research and complete their papers. Each student's paper should follow this guide: introductory paragraph, 2-3 supporting paragraphs, concluding paragraph.
- 4. If time remains (or in the next class period), allow students to share their interesting findings with the class through whole group or small group discussion.

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### Evaluation

Please use the following rubric to evaluate each student's essay.

Halloween Traditions Around the World Informative Essay	4 (Excellent)	3 (Good)	2 (Okay)	1 (Needs Improvement)
The student includes an introductory paragraph.				
Body paragraph 1 in- cludes appropriate infor- mation from research.				
Body paragraph 2 in- cludes appropriate infor- mation from research				
Body paragraph 3 in- cludes appropriate infor- mation from research.				
The student includes a paragraph of conclusion.				
The student uses com- plete sentences with ap- propriate capitalization, grammar, and punctua- tion.				



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