Bellringer

Throughout the day’s lesson, you will have several questions to answer so take out a piece of paper

1. What types of Halloween activities will you be participating in this year? Does your family/friends have any Halloween traditions?
Halloween around the World
Halloween as we know it...
2. What is your favorite Halloween movie?
Origins of Halloween

Samhain – ancient Celtic celebration
All Saint’s Day

Nov. 1st - All Hallows Day

Oct. 31st – All Hallows Eve ➞ Halloween
Medieval Traditions

Souling
Nov. 2\textsuperscript{nd} – All Soul’s Day
poor and needy would beg for Soul Cakes and promise to pray for a family’s relative in return

Guising
Food, wine or money in return for singing, reciting poetry or telling jokes.
Medieval Traditions

Turnip

Pumpkin
Modern Irish Traditions

Barnbrack – type of fruitcake w. hidden “gift”
Snap-apple – original bobbing for apples game
Knock-a-dolly – Irish version of ring and run
Modern American Traditions

1900’s America

Irish immigrants reestablish old traditions

Tricks/Pranks more than Treats
1950’s

Family oriented – Children centered
Currently

2\textsuperscript{nd} largest commercial holiday (after X-mas)

$6$ Billion/Year on costumes and treats
3. Do the Halloween traditions practiced in America today continue to carry any of their more ancient cultural meanings or significance? Why/why not?
GREETINGS FOR HALLOWE’EN.
Dia de los Muertos – Latin America
Oct. 31st – Nov. 2nd

- Dead return to earthly homes on Halloween
- Celebrations are held in their honor
Aztec Origins

Mictecacihuatl - Queen of the Underworld
(pronounced 'Meek-teka-see-wahdl)
• Keeps watch over the bones of the dead
• Aztec traditions mixed with Spanish influences
• Still believed to preside over modern festivities
Festival

Music, dancing, costumes
Alters

- Done in home and/or at the graves of dead
- Gifts of food and liquor
4. How are these cultural traditions portrayed by the little girl in this film?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCQnUuq-TEE
Question

5. How does the Mexican/Latin American tradition differ from our own Halloween not only physically in its festivities but also psychologically in its purpose/beliefs?
GUY FAWKES DAY!
Remember, Remember the 5\textsuperscript{th} of November...
Ghost Day/Festival - Asia
Ghost Day/Festival - Asia

• Ghosts and spirits return from the dead to visit
  – Other festivals recall their memory
• Rituals performed to mitigate suffering of dead
• Parades and concerts held to entertain spirits
6. How might holding a festival every year to commemorate those that have died help people accept the loss of a loved one?
Obon or Festival of the Lanterns - Japan
Souls of the departed return to the world of living

Unlike Halloween, souls of dead are not seen as angry or mischievous

Instead they are simply returning to visit their relatives that were left behind
Paper Lanterns

Similar to other day of the dead celebrations, offerings of food and special alters are built in temples and in homes.

As the sun goes down paper lanterns are lit to help spirits find their way home and then set adrift to help them find their way back to realm of the dead.
• The festival offers a chance for all Cambodian Buddhists to pay gratitude to their deceased ancestors as well as to those living parents and elders.

• P'chum Ben is a religious ceremony in September when everyone remembers the spirit of dead relatives. For fifteen days, people in Cambodian villages take turns bringing food to the temples or pagodas.
• On the fifteenth and final day, everyone dresses in their finest clothing to travel together to the pagodas. Families bring overflowing baskets of flowers, and children offer food and presents to the monks.

• Everyone says prayers to help their ancestors pass on to a better life. According to Khmer belief, those who do not follow the practices of P'chum Ben are cursed by their angry ancestors.
Question

7. What can be learned from the prevalence around the world and across many different cultures of festivals dedicated to the dead?