Handout: To Be Given To Student:

Some people think that if you look in a glass of water at Halloween you will see your future partner. (*True: some people believe this.*)

Harry Potter drinks pumpkin milkshakes and pumpkin juice. **True / False**

The world's biggest pumpkin was 1502 pounds. **True / False**

It is possible to buy a pumpkin carver (a special carving knife for pumpkins.) **True / False**

The Irish probably introduced Halloween to the United States. **True / False**

Some people make desserts of jello* in the shape of brains, hearts and hands for Halloween. **True / False**

Arachnophobia is a fear of spiders. **True / False**

Vampire bats come from Australia. **True / False**

The Egyptians were the first people to bob for apples. **True / False**

People traditionally believed that wearing masks meant that ghosts would not recognize them. **True / False**

Trick or treating may have started in Ireland. **True / False**

*British English - jello*
This warmer about Halloween encourages discussion.

**Level:** Pre-Intermediate and above.

**Language Aims:** Discussing, agreeing and disagreeing, learning Halloween vocabulary.

**Preparation:** Make copies of the worksheet below and take to class.

**Procedure:**

1. Ask students to get into small groups. Give each small group a copy of the worksheet and ask them to read through it.

2. Briefly explain any difficult vocabulary.

3. Ask students to discuss whether they think each statement is true or false so that their group comes up with a true or false answer for each question. Set a time limit if necessary.

4. Ask groups to share their answers for each question. You may like to ask them to give reasons for their answers.

5. Reveal whether each answer is true or false.

**Suggestion:** Turn it into a group competition with groups getting a point for each correct answer.

**Variation:** Give each small group one of the statements. Have them present it to the class as true. The class then have to decide whether the statement is actually true or the group is lying.

**Answers:**

Some people think that if you look in a glass of water at Halloween you will see your future partner. (True: some people believe this.)

Harry Potter drinks pumpkin milkshakes and pumpkin juice. (True)

The world's biggest pumpkin was 1502 pounds. (True: it was grown in the United States.)

It is possible to buy a pumpkin carver (a special carving knife for pumpkins.) (True)

The Irish probably introduced Halloween to the United States. (True)

Some people make desserts of jello* in the shape of brains, hearts and hands for Halloween. (True: they use special molds to shape them.)

Arangephobia is a fear of spiders. (False: arachnophobia is a fear of spiders.)

Vampire bats come from Australia. (False: they're found in South and Central America.)

The Egyptians were the first people to bob for apples. (False: the Romans introduced this.)

People traditionally believed that wearing masks meant that ghosts would not recognize them. (True: they wore them when they went out so they would not be recognized.)

Trick or treating may have started in Ireland. (True.)