

Halloween Fun!

The eerie, sick yellow glow emanating from within his sunken black eyes permeated dimly through the room. His gaze was penetrating, but somewhat vacant. Those who gazed upon his face were struck with the fear of death. His skin color was that of a dingy, shriveled carrot that had been in the ground too long. Vertical wrinkles decorated his skin starting at the top of his head and running down to the bottom of his chin. He bore a permanent grin in the shape of a howl, a flame tongue burning from inside his mouth. On top of his head was a clump of wan green stiff hair with striations running parallel to his perfectly cut triangular nose.

The most striking feature of this frightening man was his lack of a corporeal body. The man's head had been separated from his body centuries ago, and now his only desire is to be reunited with it. And so, he spends every Halloween searching complacently, his flame tongue lighting the darkness, hoping to reconnect with his long lost remains so that he may finally rest in peace.

Who is he?

Your Task:

Brainstorm some Halloween icons or choose one from the list below. Then write a description of that icon. Give it human characteristics, and use similes, metaphors, and personification to paint a vivid picture for your reader. Try to focus on details in abstract ways rather than using concrete descriptions. Write your description in such a way that you don't reveal what the icon is. Challenge your reader to guess what you are writing about.

Explore new and descriptive vocabulary words by using a thesaurus and/or the vocabulary cards on Mrs. H-B's wall. Go beyond your existing vocabulary. Expand your writing repertoire.

Have fun with this writing assignment. If you need some pointers on how to write descriptively, look in your *Writing* book on pages 112 – 141 and/or pages 142 – 173.

Here are some examples of Halloween icons. Use one of these or create your own:

Black cat
Vampire
Pumpkin
Bat
Witch
Ghost

Goblin
Cemetery
Full moon
Monster
Frankenstein monster

You may not write about a Jack-o-lantern since I have already tackled that topic in my example.

You have the option of putting this writing in your electronic portfolio at a later time. When you finish with your rough draft, trade papers with a friend to get some feedback and suggestions for revision. Bring back a semi-final draft tomorrow. Have fun with this!