

Trick-or-Treating

Written by Mr. Bill

Good morning, UNAN! Today is Friday, October 26th, 2018.

Next week, on Wednesday, October 31st, will be Halloween. There are many Halloween traditions in America, such as carving pumpkins, visiting haunted houses or watching horror movies, but Halloween in America is most popular among children for trick-or-treating.



Children wearing costumes go from house to house asking for treats by saying “trick-or-treat!” The treat refers to candy, but the trick refers to a prank. If the homeowners do not give the children treats or candy, then the children will pull a prank on them. Some examples of pranks are egging and teepee-ing. Egging someone’s home is when a person throws a bunch of raw eggs onto a house. Teepee-ing is when a person covers a house with many rolls of toilet paper. That is why many people make sure to dish out candy to all the children who visit on Halloween, because they definitely don't want to get pranked.

On a dark and chilly Halloween night when I was in elementary school, I went trick-or-treating with my cousins. My cousins lived in a very old neighborhood, so all the houses were over 100 years old. We knocked on a few doors and collected a good amount of candy. Then, my cousin dared me to knock on the house at the end of the road. I walked up to the house while my cousins stayed behind. As I started to knock, the door slowly creaked open. It was really dark inside, with just fire flickering in the fireplace. I called out, “trick-or-treat,” but nobody seemed to be home.

Suddenly, I heard a voice whisper, “It’s so cold, and I can't get warm...” I could see a girl standing next to the fireplace, but when she turned around to face me, she was blue as if she was frozen. I was so scared, I ran back to my cousins. They were laughing at me, but when I told them about the voice and the girl and the fireplace,



they stopped. It turns out that a family used to live there many years ago, but no one knows what happened to them after a very terrible snowstorm. The house is empty to this day, but sometimes, people see smoke coming up from the fireplace, like the little girl is still trying to get warm. That was the last time I ever went trick-or-treating.