

# Improving Your Reading with Vocabulary Victor: Hallowe'en



"What does Halloween mean, Father?" asked Jack, as the family was seated at breakfast one morning late in October.

"It means the evening before All Saints Day," answered Dad.

"Do you remember what fun we had last year, Charlie?" said Jack.

"I sure do!" he answered.

The Smith family had always lived in the town of Thornhill in a large, white house, and not far away was the home of Jack's best friend Sid and his brother Billy.



"We had great fun when I was a boy," resumed Dad, "for my birthday falls on Halloween and your grandmother would always have me invite the boys in the neighbourhood to a party on that night."

"Oh, I wish my birthday wasn't two days later or I could have a party too," sighed Jack.

"There's no reason, Jack," said his mother, with a smile, "why you can't celebrate your birthday on Halloween, if you'd like to"

"Oh, Mother, that's brilliant," cried Jack, jumping up from the table and running around to his mother's place to give her a hearty hug. "You always make things right," he added.

"We'd better ask all of our friends in school today," suggested Charlie, "because Saturday is Halloween."

Jack lost no time when he reached school that morning in giving his invitations to the party and all the boys were glad to accept. They always had a great time at Jack's house.

1. *as the family was seated at breakfast*

What does the word *seated* mean in this phrase? Tick **one**.

- ☐ eating food
- ☐ waiting for someone
- ☐ talking to each other
- ☐ sitting down

2. *Jack lost no time when he reached school*

This means that Jack... Tick **one**.

- ☐ acted quickly.
- ☐ had extra playtime.
- ☐ stayed at home.
- ☐ took his time.

3. **Find** and **copy two** words which the author uses to describe the Smith family's house.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Look at the paragraph beginning *We had great fun when I was a boy...*

**Find** and **copy one** word which means the same as *continued*.

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