

HALLOWEEN-EXTRA

Level 1

This level is suitable for students who have been learning English for at least a year and up to two years. It corresponds with the Common European Framework level A1. Suitable for users of CLICK magazine.

SYNOPSIS

It's Halloween. Buffy and friends hire costumes and take children out trick-or-treating (see Fact File 2). Everyone's having fun. But there's someone new in Sunnydale who wants to spoil their fun. His name is Ethan, he's opened a Costume Shop and he has evil plans. Ethan casts a spell (he's actually a sorcerer). Whatever costume people hired from him, that's what they turn into. Vampire-slaying Buffy loses her powers and becomes a cowardly noblewoman from 1775. Willow becomes a ghost and Xander turns into a real-life soldier. The vampires are delighted. Buffy and friends find themselves imprisoned in an old warehouse by Spike with a band of children who have turned into vampires. Willow meanwhile is working with Giles to undo the spell. Just as Spike is about to bite Buffy and turn *her* into a vampire, Ethan's spell is broken by Giles, Buffy's powers return and Spike pays the price.

THE BACK STORY

With 144 episodes in 7 series, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is a TV cult classic. Episode 1 was shown in March 1997 and the last episode in May 2003. Constantly shown on TV around the world, Buffy has fans and fan clubs everywhere.

The show takes the old idea of a strong adult man saving a feeble woman and reverses it. Here a teenage girl is the only one with the power to save the world. In each episode, Buffy and her teenage friends (and Giles, of course) have to deal with terrifying enemies, including vampires, ghosts and demons.

Sunnydale is a small town in California. The action centres around the High School. Buffy and her friends are students and Rupert Giles, Buffy's Watcher or guide, is the librarian. Buffy, the Chosen One, has been sent to Sunnydale because the entrance to Hell – the Hellmouth – is in the basement of the school.

The show combines comedy, tragedy, martial arts, romance and horror. The stories also deal with teenage issues of love, self-esteem and planning a future, and use the fights with supernatural forces as metaphors for emotional anxieties.

Halloween is Episode 6 from Series 2, so it's quite near the beginning. Buffy and her friends are still at high school. The plot hinges on Buffy's developing relationship with Angel and her uncertainties and anxieties about him. It explores how we sometimes try to be something we are not, in order to please another person. When Buffy tries this, it causes a lot of trouble.

MEDIA LINKS

DVD: All the Buffy TV episodes are available on DVD/video.

CD: A recording of *Halloween* is available to accompany the Scholastic ELT reader.

Internet: Good starting points are www.bbc.co.uk/cult/buffy and the official website www.buffy.com.

Books: *The Watcher's Guide* Volumes 1-3, the official companions to the TV series, published by Pocket Books, are full of quotes, interviews, background information, episode guides and photos.

HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC ELT MEDIA READER

Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Do they watch *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*? Get your class to want to read *Halloween*. Motivate them with background information and by reading aloud the first page of the story with dramatic atmosphere.

Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (All answers on page 4.)

Using the DVD

Try to get the English language DVD of *Halloween*. Watch it yourself first to check that it is suitable for your class. Show it in chunks of, say, 5 minutes in parallel with the reading schedule, pausing at the end of a scene. Alternatively, show the whole programme after students have finished the book, as a reward.

Using the CD

Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these options will enhance their understanding and speed up their reading.

Glossary

Go to New Words! at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings as homework.

Casual language

Introduce the informal expressions used in *Halloween* (see Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource).

Fact Files

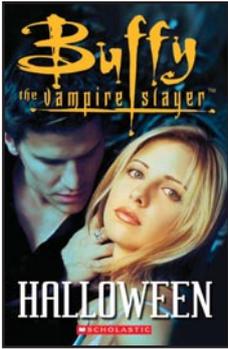
Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. The files dig into the Buffy series, find out about the programme's star, Sarah Michelle Gellar, who plays Buffy, and explore what Halloween is. Project ideas are on page 4 of this resource sheet.

What did they think?

Get everyone to do a review of *Halloween*. Will they read more Buffy stories? Will they watch Buffy on TV or DVD? Did you like it? Let us know at: readers@link2english.com.

COMPETITIONS AND UPDATES

Check readers@link2english.com for competitions and other activities related to the Scholastic Buffy readers.



**HALLOWEEN
- EXTRA**

People and places

1 These sentences have the wrong names in them. Put the right names in.

- a) ~~Giles~~ is a vampire. *spike*
- b) Xander is 241 years old.
- c) Ethan likes clothes and parties.
- d) Willow likes Angel.
- e) Sunnydale teenagers go to Ethan's Costume Shop in the evenings.
- f) Drusilla and Buffy are friends.

Chapter 1: A bad day at work

1 Are these sentences true or false? Correct the false ones. Write them in an exercise book.

- a) Angel feels happy in Buffy's world. *F*
- b) Buffy slays a vampire on the way to the Bronze.
- c) Cordelia doesn't like Angel.
- d) Cordelia thinks Buffy's hair looks good.
- e) Cordelia is always thinking about her hair and clothes.
- f) Buffy, Xander and Willow want to go trick-or-treating with the Sunnydale children.
- g) There's something wrong with Buffy's hands and she can't write.

2 Work with a partner.

One of you is Principal Snyder: tell Willow/Xander to go trick-or-treating with the Sunnydale children tomorrow.

The other is Willow or Xander: you don't want to go. Make an excuse.

Chapter 2: A long, red dress

1 Who ...

- a) writes the Watcher Diaries? *Giles*
- b) doesn't have any fun hobbies?
- c) takes the diaries from Giles's desk?
- d) lived in 1775?
- e) thinks that Angel is not a vampire?

2 Buffy tells Giles about a 'cool place ... with ... pictures on the wall' on page 12. What is she talking about?

.....

Write about a theatre, restaurant, club or sports centre in the same way. Read it to a partner. Your partner guesses what the place is.

3 Willow thinks the woman in the picture is unlucky. Buffy thinks she's lucky. Why do they think this? Write sentences.

4 Put the words in the right spaces.

~~bad~~ old new strange strong weak

- a) Spike and Drusilla live in a *bad* part of town in an building.
- b) Spike hates Buffy because she is
- c) Drusilla is because she needs more blood.
- d) Drusilla can see pictures in her head.
- e) She sees a person in Sunnydale.

Chapter 3: The fun starts

1 Work with a partner. Buffy is a woman from 1775. Willow is first a Man Slayer, and then a ghost. Xander is a soldier. Why do they choose these costumes, do you think? Talk about your ideas. Choose Halloween costumes for you and your partner.

2 Answer these questions.

- a) Who are the five little people with green faces and black teeth? *Children in costumes.*
- b) Does Principal Snyder like Buffy? How do you know?
- c) Yesterday, Buffy didn't want to take the children. What does she think now?
- d) Who makes Buffy suddenly feel cold?
- e) Who is Willow now?
- f) Who is Xander now?
- g) What does Buffy usually do when she sees a vampire and a big monster?
- h) What does she do this time?



Chapter 4: Who's Buffy?

1 Choose the best word(s).

- Only Willow / Xander knows Buffy.
- When a monster kicks Buffy, she *kicks back* / screams.
- Xander pulls a *green monster* / Cordelia into Buffy's house.
- When Buffy and Angel go into the kitchen, *there is a vampire in there* / *Catwoman is in there*.
- Buffy is frightened of *Angel* / *the other vampire* because of his vampire face.

2 Giles says, 'At six o'clock, everyone changed.' Did everyone change? Why do Giles and Willow run to Ethan's? Talk to other students.

Chapter 5: 'I'm home'

1 Put these events in order.

- Buffy kicks Spike. She's back!
- Buffy runs into a frightening man in a dark street.
- Buffy's friends arrive and they all go into an old building.
- Giles breaks the statue.
- Giles finds Ethan at the Costume Shop.
- Giles hits Ethan.
- Spike and his little vampires follow them in.
- Spike grabs Buffy.
- The little vampires change into children.

2 Did Giles know Ethan before he came to Sunnydale? Do you think Giles was evil before he came to Sunnydale? Talk to other students.

3 At the beginning Buffy says to Willow, 'Who is Angel?' What does she know about him at the end of the story? Write some sentences.

FINAL TASKS

Writing

1 Choose one of these characters: Cordelia, Drusilla, Ethan, Mrs Parker. Describe what happens from their point of view. Don't write more than 50 words.

2 At the end of the story, Ethan writes, 'See you soon' to Giles. Do you think he's going to come back? What's going to happen, do you think? Write some ideas.

3 Halloween is on 31 October, so this story happens in the autumn. What is autumn like in your country? Write some sentences. Write about the weather, the day/night hours, things to do in the day/evening, clothes to wear.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

Vampire words

1 There's a wrong word in each of these sentences. Find the right word in the New Words! at the back of *Halloween*.

- Buffy slays vampires with a pizza.
- A vampire's favourite drink is coffee.
- Vampires drink blood from your feet.
- I don't believe in vampires or doctors.
- Vampires are friendly.

2 Put these verbs in the correct form in the spaces.

scream kick hit grab

The monster a) the soldier. The soldier quickly tried to b) the monster. Then he c) him with his gun. The monster d) and ran away.

3 Choose the best word.

- I found a French dictionary here.
- I don't want my parents to read this.
- I'm a vampire in the school play and I have a black one of these.
- My boyfriend and I went to a football match for our first one of these.

Casual language

- 'Gotta go' Buffy says this on p.12. It means 'I've got to go.'
- 'What's up with you?' Cordelia says on this on p.28 when Buffy screams and grabs her. It means 'What's the matter with you?'
- 'It was like, .../It's like ...' Cordelia says this on p.7. Teenagers often put the word 'like' in after a verb - it doesn't mean anything!
- Sometimes they use 'be like' instead of the verb 'say', for example in this reported dialogue:

'He's like, "What's your name?"
And I'm like, "Why do you want to know?"'

Complete these dialogues with the expressions.

- 'I feel terrible.'
'.....'
- 'I'm like going to the club tonight.'
'Can I come with you?'
- 'Look at the time. It's 12 o'clock!'
'.....'



BUFFY ON TV (pages 32-3)**Quiz**

Students work in groups. Each group uses the Fact File to prepare five questions about Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Groups close their books and ask each other their questions.

Audition

Students choose a character to audition for. They find a section of dialogue in the story and practise with other students. Three students volunteer to be the audition panel. They watch all the auditions and then give the parts to members of the class.

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR (pages 34-5)**Interview**

Students work in pairs. They read the Fact File about Sarah and then close their books. One is the interviewer; the other is Sarah. They improvise an interview, remembering as much information as they can.

Alternatively, they choose a different actor, find out biographical information about them and prepare an interview. They can act out their interview in front of the class.

Discussion

Sarah Michelle Gellar began professional acting when she was 4. So did Alyson Hannigan, who plays Willow. David Boreanaz finished college before he went to Los Angeles to try and be an actor.

Ask students to think of celebrities who started working young. Examples might be Michael Jackson and Joss Stone.

Is it a good thing or a bad thing to work for money and be famous before you leave school?

WHAT IS HALLOWEEN? (pages 36-7)**Research**

Students find out about a similar celebration from another part of the world, for example, the Day of the Dead in Mexico, and write about it. Give them some questions to answer. When and why did it start? What happens on the day? What do people wear? Is there special food?

DVD and CD FOLLOW-UP

If you plan to show the programme in class, watch it yourself first. Check that it is suitable for your class and identify good places to pause. The dialogue is fast and slangy, with mainly American accents. (The reader is written in British English.)

Accents

Ask which characters have British accents (Giles, Ethan, Spike and Drusilla) and which have American accents (all the others).

Observing

Choose a scene before class and prepare questions on it. Tell students to look at everything very carefully and remember as much detail as they can. Play the scene a couple of times and then ask your questions, eg *What does Mrs Parker say when she opens the door? How many children are in Willow's group? Is there a light next to her front door?* And so on. Play the scene again to check answers. Students mark each other's work.

Casual language

Use the CD to focus on items of casual language. The intonation and emphasis are often the key to the speaker's meaning. The same expression said in different ways can convey very different emotions. Play the relevant section several times and encourage students to try it out themselves.

ANSWER KEY**Self-Study Activities (pages 38-40)**

1 a) a stake b) Grab c) costumes d) blood e) a diary
f) trick-or-treaters g) ghosts

2 a) ii b) v c) ii d) iv

3 Open answers.

4 a) Buffy b) looks terrible c) are not d) doesn't see
e) boyfriend

5-6 Open answers.

7 a) monster b) scream c) evil d) neck e) strange

8 a) She goes out in a ghost costume.

b) The trick-or-treaters change into monsters.

c) Willow does know Xander.

d) Cordelia is in a cat costume.

e) Buffy screams because Angel is a vampire.

f) Cordelia's costume didn't come from Ethan's Costume Shop.

9 Open answers.

10 a) iii b) i c) iv d) ii

11 Open answer.

12 a) Ethan b) Giles c) Cordelia d) Buffy e) Janus f) Willow
g) Angel

13 Open answers.

Resource Sheet Activities**People and places**

1 b) Angel c) Cordelia d) Buffy likes Angel / Willow likes Xander
e) the Bronze f) Willow and Buffy are friends.

Chapter 1: A bad day at work

1 b and e are true; c, d, f and g are false.

c) Cordelia likes Angel. He doesn't like her.

d) Cordelia thinks Buffy's hair looks terrible.

f) They don't want to go trick-or-treating. It's Principal Snyder's idea.

g) There's nothing wrong with Buffy's hands and she can write.

Chapter 2: A long, red dress

1 b) Giles c) Willow d) the beautiful woman in the picture
e) Cordelia

4 a) old b) strong c) weak d) strange e) new

Chapter 3: The fun starts

2 b) No, he doesn't. He calls her 'Summers' – that's her surname.

He doesn't smile when he talks to her.

c) She's enjoying it – she thinks it's fun.

d) Ethan and Janus.

e) She is Willow's ghost.

f) He is a soldier.

g) She hits/kicks them.

h) She looks frightened and then falls.

Chapter 4: Who's Buffy?

1 b) screams c) Cordelia d) there is a vampire in there e) Angel

Chapter 5: 'I'm home'

1 The correct order is: e, f, b, c, g, h, d, i, a.

Vocabulary Builder

1 a) stake b) blood c) neck d) ghosts e) evil

2 a) grabbed/kicked b) grab/kick c) hit d) screamed

3 a) library b) diary c) costume d) date

Casual language

1. What's up with you?

2. like

3. I gotta go.