

Activity Type

Reading and Vocabulary Exercises: categorising, matching, listing, guessing

Focus

Autumn vocabulary

Aim

To learn and practice vocabulary associated with autumn.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here is an autumn vocabulary worksheet to help teach students words related to the autumn season.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Students start by reading a text about autumn and categorizing the autumn vocabulary from the text.

Exercise A - Answer key

Animals and Plants	Food	Verbs	Celebration words
leaves, squirrels	corn, pumpkins, nuts	rake, fall, harvest, carve, pick, migrate	Halloween, Thanksgiving, feast, bonfire

Next, students match sentence halves together that use verbs associated with autumn.

Exercise B - Answer key

1. e 2. f 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. d

After that, students match each autumn word with its correct definition.

Exercise C - Answer key

1. e 5. b 9. d 13. g
 2. m 6. l 10. k 14. j
 3. a 7. c 11. f 15. h
 4. n 8. p 12. i 16. o

Students then move on to think of and write two answers for each of the items shown, e.g. 'Write down two vegetables that are harvested in autumn'.

In the last exercise, students work with a partner and take it in turns to guess the two answers their partner wrote for each item.

Students are allowed two guesses each time and score one point for each correct answer. The student with the most points wins.

A. Read the text about autumn and put the words in bold in the correct categories.

Autumn is my favourite time of year. I love watching the **leaves** change colour from green into orange and yellow. I don't even mind having to **rake** them when they **fall** off the trees into my garden. Another great thing about autumn is the food. It's fun to watch the busy farmers in the fields as they **harvest** sweet **corn**, and huge orange **pumpkins**, which people then take home and **carve** scary faces into to



celebrate **Halloween**. Every autumn, my family and I go and **pick** juicy red apples from the trees, which we then **store** in our basement to eat during the winter. Watching animals as they prepare for winter is fascinating too. When I go for a walk, I see **squirrels** collecting acorns and other **nuts**, and birds in the sky starting to **migrate** south for the winter. My favourite part of autumn though is **Thanksgiving**. We always have an enormous **feast** of turkey, vegetables, and tasty pumpkin pie. Afterwards, we go outside and build a huge **bonfire**. We then stand around it, drinking hot chocolate, and watching its huge orange flames light up our garden.

Animals and Plants	Food	Verbs associated with autumn	Celebration words

B. Match the sentence halves together.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. We love picking | a. his vegetables, the farmer sold them at the market. |
| 2. Raking | b. potatoes in our kitchen cupboard to eat over winter. |
| 3. After harvesting | c. somewhere warmer in winter like the birds do. |
| 4. I wish I could migrate | d. a face on a pumpkin can be tricky. |
| 5. We store | e. fruit from the trees in our garden. |
| 6. Carving | f. leaves can be very tiring. |

C. Match each autumn word with its correct definition.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. leaves | a. bring together leaves using a garden tool |
| 2. fall | b. a sweet-tasting yellow vegetable |
| 3. rake | c. to cut into the surface of something to make a design |
| 4. harvest | d. to remove a flower or fruit from the place where it is growing |
| 5. corn | e. flat, thin plant organs that grow from a stem or branch |
| 6. pumpkin | f. a small, bushy-tailed animal |
| 7. carve | g. an American holiday to celebrate the harvest and give thanks |
| 8. Halloween | h. a dry fruit or seed with a hard shell |
| 9. pick | i. to move from one region to another according to the seasons |
| 10. store | j. a large celebratory meal |
| 11. squirrel | k. to put something aside for future use |
| 12. migrate | l. a large round orange vegetable |
| 13. Thanksgiving | m. to drop downward from a higher place |
| 14. feast | n. to collect crops |
| 15. nut | o. a large controlled outdoor fire |
| 16. bonfire | p. a celebration that takes place on the night of October 31 |

D. Think of and write down two answers for each item.

1. Write down two vegetables that are **harvested** in autumn.
2. Write down two occasions when people have a **feast**.
3. Write down two things you can do with a **pumpkin**.
4. Write down two foods that people **pick** from trees.
5. Write down two foods that can be **stored** for a long time.
6. Write down two birds that **migrate** for the winter.
7. Write down two types of **nut**.
8. Write down two animals that are smaller than a **squirrel**.

E. In pairs, take it in turns to guess the two answers your partner wrote for each item. You are allowed two guesses each time and score one point for each correct answer.