

## DOUBLE TROUBLE

Great novels usually contain at least one major conflict, though they often contain several. The term **conflict** refers to the problems a character faces. Conflict is what forces characters to change and grow as they encounter obstacles and struggle to overcome them.

There are several types of conflict found in literature. For this activity, let's focus on the two types that are most commonly found in *Wonder*: **Person vs. Person** and **Person vs. Self**.

### Person vs. Person

Another character or group of characters causes trouble for a character.

### Person vs. Self

A character's own emotions, thoughts, or feelings cause trouble for him/her.

Complete this sentence: I have just read Part \_\_\_\_\_, which is narrated by \_\_\_\_\_.

Show how the narrator is affected in this section by these two conflicts. Give examples for each.

|  | Person vs. Person | Person vs. Self |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1st Example:</b>  |                   |                 |
| <b>Quotation that shows this:</b>                            |                   |                 |
| <b>How does this character try to resolve this conflict?</b> |                   |                 |
| <b>2nd Example:</b>  |                   |                 |
| <b>Quotation that shows this:</b>                            |                   |                 |
| <b>How does this character try to resolve this conflict?</b> |                   |                 |



In Part One, we are introduced to the character of Jack Will, and we see this character through Auggie's eyes. In Part Four, we get a chance to hear Jack's thoughts and experience his feelings.

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# Halloween

October 31

Halloween comes from an old Celtic holiday. The Celts marked the end of the harvest season. The word is a short form of the phrase, "All Hallows' Eve." In medieval times, poor people went door to door on the first day of November. They received gifts of food. In return, they would say prayers for the dead. This tradition has never been practiced in America.

People here celebrate with harvest parties. They wear costumes and go trick-or-treating. Children receive candy. People carve pumpkins.



## Summary of Activities

### Reading: Literature

*Harvest Party*—fictional story with a sequencing activity

### Reading: Informational Text

*The Many Uses for Pumpkin*—nonfiction passage with comprehension questions

### Writing

*Stories Around the Bonfire*—activity in which students write and share fall stories

### Speaking & Listening

*My Pumpkin*—activity in which students share their pumpkin-carving steps with classmates

**Vocabulary:** bob, bonfire, harvest, pumpkin, roast



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Harvest Party

**Directions:** Read the story below and on page 94. Then complete the activity on page 94.

Jenna dropped the tape and ran to answer the door. "Hi, Vivian, you're just in time to help me finish putting up streamers!"

Her friend came in and dropped her bag inside the living room as Jenna closed the front door. "I see." Vivian laughed. Strips of paper hung, trailing over the chair Jenna had used to reach higher on the wall. "Of course, I'll help."

Sighing with relief, Jenna held the tape as Vivian climbed up on the chair. Taller than Jenna, Vivian would do a much better job.

"What are we going to do tonight?" Vivian stepped off the chair, twisting a streamer. "Here, hold this." She handed the twisted paper to Jenna and moved the chair to another place along the wall.

"It's going to be such fun!" Jenna clapped her hands, dropping the streamer. "We're going to bob for apples and have popcorn. Mom is heating apple cider, and we'll tell scary stories with a flashlight. We can pretend we're sitting around a bonfire." The doorbell rang before Jenna could pick up the fallen decorations.

Beverly and Liz dropped their bags on the floor next to Vivian's. They clustered in the dining room, peeking into the kitchen. Jenna's stepfather and stepbrother hauled in tubs. They filled them with water and set apples floating on the surface.

"Looks good to me," Liz said. "When do we start?"

"Call the girls, Jenna," Mom said. "I think everyone is here." Jenna hollered down the short hallway for her two sisters to come out.

"Do we count Philip?" Beverly asked. "That would make seven of us total. Do you think seven is a lucky number?"

Jenna rolled her eyes. All her friends said her stepbrother, Philip, was cute. She had to admit, at least he wasn't a pest like Vivian's brothers.

They took turns dipping their faces into the cold water to bob for apples. "This is hard. I give up." Beverly sat back and threw up her hands.

Jenna was determined to get an apple, so she chomped down hard. The apple skittered across the water, and she used her chin to hold it next to the edge of the tub. "Got it!" She leaned back on her knees.

"Popcorn's ready," Mom said. She handed a large bowl to Vivian and followed her into the living room with a second bowl. "Jenna, please bring some napkins."

Earlier, Jenna and her sisters had scrunched up red, orange, and yellow tissue paper to make a pretend bonfire. "Is everyone settled?"

The girls found pillows and arranged themselves, giggling.

"You turned out the lights before I was ready!" Beverly complained.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Harvest Party *(cont.)*

**Directions:** Read the story beginning on page 93. Then complete the activity.

Jenna shook her head, although no one could see in the dark room. "No, I haven't touched the switch."

Liz jumped up, almost knocking over a bowl of popcorn. "Philip did it for a trick!"

"No, I'm over here." Philip spoke from the corner of the room by the front window.

Shrieks erupted.

"Girls, the lights have gone out. Do you have the flashlights handy?" Jenna's stepfather's calm tone quieted them for a moment.

"It's because it's Friday the thirteenth." Liz announced. "Someone or something has cut the electricity. After we tell stories, we can figure out the mystery."

**Activity:** Write the events of the story in the order they happened. After each event, write the name of one character who did something that affected the outcome.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Many Uses for Pumpkin

**Directions:** Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

It may surprise you to learn that pumpkin is a fruit. In fact, giant pumpkins are the world's largest fruit. They are members of the squash family. Pumpkins first came from Central America. Now, they grow on every continent except Antarctica.

The Native Americans used pumpkins for many things. They cut long strips of pumpkin and roasted them over an open fire. Then, they dried the strips and wove them into mats. Native Americans used the seeds for food and medicine.

Colonists ate pumpkins. They cut off the tops. Then, they scooped out the seeds. They put in milk, spices, and honey. They baked the pumpkins in hot ashes.

Now, we make pumpkin pie. People use pumpkins to make soup, pie, bread, and cookies. Pumpkin can be put in ice cream and pancakes. It can be made into a spread for crackers.

In other countries, people eat pumpkin in different ways. Often, people eat pumpkin as a vegetable. Some people roast pumpkin with beef or other meat. Pumpkin can be eaten with chocolate, too.

People in Switzerland use pumpkin for many foods. They cook small balls of pumpkin and flour in boiling water. They also make salad oil with pumpkin seeds.

Almost all of a pumpkin is safe to eat. People cook the meat of the pumpkin. They roast the seeds. Pumpkin seeds make a good snack. It is safe to eat the flowers. Some people make salad with the leaves.

People feed pumpkin to animals. Elephants in zoos eat pumpkin. Pumpkin is a healthy food for chickens and goats.

Other people use pumpkin for medicine. Some people think it will get rid of freckles. Others think pumpkin will make skin soft. People from China use it as a cure for snakebites. They believe pumpkin takes away pain. In Mexico and China, pumpkin is made into flour. The flour is used in Japan and other countries.

Pumpkins grow on vines or bushes. People harvest them. Pumpkins can be stored. Keep them in a warm, dry place. They keep best with the stem still on.

Try something new! Find a way to eat some of the world's largest fruit.

1. Which part of the pumpkin is *not* safe to eat?

a. seeds

b. flowers

c. skin

2. What is the relationship between pumpkins and animals?

a. Pumpkin is a good food for some animals.

b. Animals do not eat pumpkins.

c. Animals are afraid of jack-o'-lanterns.

3. Underline the sentence(s) in the passage that describes non-food uses for pumpkin.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the passage. Then complete the activity.

[illegible]





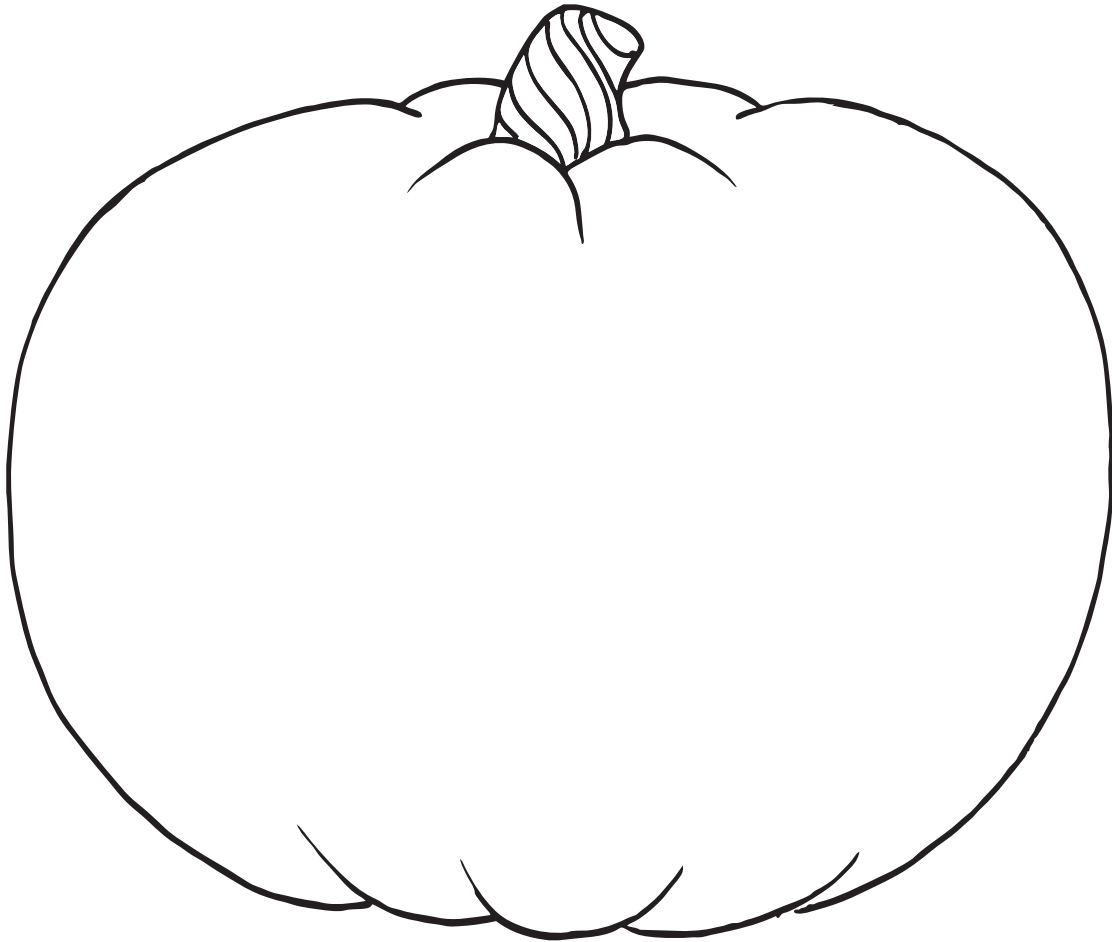
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## My Pumpkin

**Directions:** Think about how you would like to carve a pumpkin. Write your answers to the questions, and then read them out loud to a classmate.

1. What design will you have on your pumpkin? Draw your ideas on the pumpkin.



2. What steps will you take to carve your pumpkin? Write the steps in order.

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3. How will you display your finished pumpkin?

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# Halloween

October 31

Happy Halloween! Halloween is a fun holiday in which people, young and old, dress up in costumes, and go to parties and perhaps trick-or-treating for candy! During Halloween, you may see jack-o'-lanterns peering from porches, haunted houses, and haunted hayrides. Like many holidays, Halloween has its origins in both the traditions of the old world and in religion. It is sort of a combination of a Celtic harvest festival and a Catholic celebration called All Souls Day.



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## Summary of Activities

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### Reading: Literature

*The Atherton Halloween Tradition*—fictional story with a sequencing activity

### Reading: Informational Text

*A Brief History of Monsters*—nonfiction passage with comprehension questions

### Writing

*Monster Texts*—activity in which students write a series of text messages exchanged between two monsters the night before Halloween

### Speaking & Listening

*Share Monster Texts*—Have students share their series of texts with classmates.

**Vocabulary:** immortal, infamous



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Atherton Halloween Tradition

**Directions:** Read the story below and on page 94. Then complete the activity on page 94.

It was 1990. Robert and his friends lived in a very small town in the Midwest called Atherton. The entire population of the town was about 3,000. In Atherton, everybody knew everybody else.

Most of the time, the kids of Atherton really liked living there—with one exception: Halloween. Every year at Halloween, they would hear about these big haunted houses where city kids could go to get a good holiday scare. But these places were all very far away from Atherton. One year, they did ask their parents if they would drive them, but 200 miles is a long way to go just to be spooked!

So the next Halloween, they all got together and decided that if they couldn't go to a haunted house, they would make a haunted house of their own.

Robert, Shelly, Tom, and Sally met to plan the haunted house. Immediately, they ran into a problem.

"We don't have a house to haunt!"

This was true. But one thing that Atherton had in large supply was cornfields. So, instead of having a haunted house, they decided to have a haunted field.

The first thing they did was get permission from Mr. and Mrs. Anderson to use one of their fields. They picked this field because it was the closest to the center of town.

Now, the corn in the fields in Atherton grew to be about 8 feet tall. So the next thing they did was get Mr. Greico, Tom's dad, to mow a very curvy, narrow path through the field.

They made a giant sign that they placed at the very beginning of the mowed path that said, "Atherton Haunted Field. Enter If You Dare!" Then they planned how they would scare their neighbors and friends out of their wits.

Atherton Haunted Field opened on October 30 at sunset. There was a long line of people waiting to get in. Robert worked the entrance. He let people in two by two, but was careful to keep them spaced apart so the path would not get too crowded. The other kids had already taken their places, hidden in various spots along the path.

The first two people in were Mr. and Mrs. Anderson. They walked haltingly along the path. Suddenly, a giant spider appeared right in front of them. Mrs. Anderson screamed. Shelly and Tom had put large rubber bugs on the ends of fishing polls and dangled them in front of visitors at just the right moment.

The Andersons continued on. Next, they felt rain and hail. Sally, who was hidden along the path, tossed out rice while her sister, Mary, sprayed water from a bottle.

Just as the Andersons got through that, a zombie jumped out from the high cornstalks right in front of them.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Atherton Halloween Tradition *(cont.)*

**Directions:** Read the story beginning on page 93. Then complete the activity.

"Blahhhhhh!" it gnarled.

This time, Mr. Anderson screamed. He grabbed his wife's hand.

As the Andersons continued on their way, ducking spiders, ghosts, and vampires, they could hear the screams of others making their way along the path behind them. And if any stranger to Atherton had been driving through town that night, all they would have heard was a whole lot of townspeople screaming and laughing.

At the end of the evening, most folks gathered back at the Anderson house. They drank cider and ate baked potatoes, and everyone chatted about how much fun the haunted field was.

Robert, Shelly, Tom, and Sally were excited, too.

"We should do this every year!" Sally said.

And so they did. The four of them organized the Atherton Haunted Field every year until some of them moved away. But there were others to take over what had now become a tradition. The event grew and grew, until finally, instead of the kids from Atherton wanting to go somewhere else for Halloween, kids from somewhere else wanted to come to Atherton.

**Activity:** Use the graphic organizer to show the sequence of events in the story. The first box is completed for you.

|   |   |   |          |
|---|---|---|----------|
| <p>The kids in Atherton live too far away from the haunted house attractions to enjoy them.</p> | → | → | →        |
| ←   | ← | ← | <p>↓</p> |



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Brief History of Monsters

**Directions:** Read the passage. Then answer the questions on page 96.

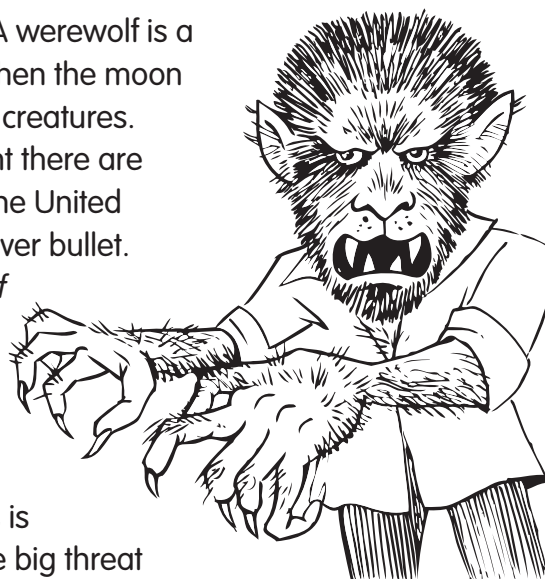
Halloween is the time of ghosts, goblins, and monsters of every kind. Here is a brief biography of some old-school, classic monsters. These creatures have been scaring people for centuries.

**Frankenstein:** The novel *Frankenstein* was written by the English author Mary Shelly. It was first published in 1818. The book tells the story of a mad scientist, Dr. Victor Frankenstein. He creates a monster out of the body parts of dead people. This is why the creature has bolts in the sides of his neck. The bolts are what is holding his head on top of his shoulders! Dr. Frankenstein does not set out to create a monster, but his experiment to make a man goes terribly wrong. The monster Frankenstein created has appeared in at least 65 movies, including *The Bride of Frankenstein* and *I Was a Teenage Frankenstein*.

**Dracula:** Dracula is another character that first appeared in a novel. Dracula was written by Irish author Bram Stoker and was first published in 1897. Count Dracula is a vampire. Vampires are monsters who are also called the “undead.” This is because they are neither alive nor dead. They are something in-between. Vampires are immortal. They can live forever. They survive by biting people’s necks and drinking their blood. They can only come out at night. The only way to vanquish a vampire is to drive a stake through its heart. Dracula has a starring role in at least 80 movies, including *Batman Fights Dracula*, *Taste the Blood of Dracula*, and *The Brides of Dracula*.

**Werewolves:** Ah Hooo! That’s the howl of the werewolf! A werewolf is a mythological creature that is a man by day, but by night, when the moon is full, he is transformed into a wolf. Werewolves are fierce creatures. Throughout the folklore of werewolves, people have thought there are various ways to get rid of one. In the werewolf folklore of the United States, the only way to kill a werewolf is to shoot it with a silver bullet. Some famous werewolf movies include *Teen Wolf*, *The Wolf Man*, and *American Werewolf in London*.

**Zombies:** Zombies, like werewolves, are creatures from mythology. Your basic zombie is a person who has died and, for reasons unknown, becomes reanimated. In other words, they can walk around and do a lot of damage. This is probably why they are often called “the walking dead.” The big threat with zombies is that they like to eat people. You can’t really kill a zombie because they are already dead. The only way to get rid of them is to clobber them in the head! Some well-known zombie movies include *Night of the Living Dead*, *Revenge of the Zombies*, and *White Zombie*.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Brief History of Monsters *(cont.)*

**Directions:** Read the passage on page 95. Then answer the questions.

1. Explain what Frankenstein and Dracula have in common.

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2. What does *immortal* mean?

a. something that is dead      b. something that can live forever      c. something that drinks blood to survive

3. Which monster is associated with the moon?

a. werewolf      b. Dracula      c. zombie



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Monster Texts

Select two of the monsters that you have just read about. Pretend it is the night before Halloween. Work with a partner to write a series of text messages that are exchanged between these two infamous creatures.

[illegible]