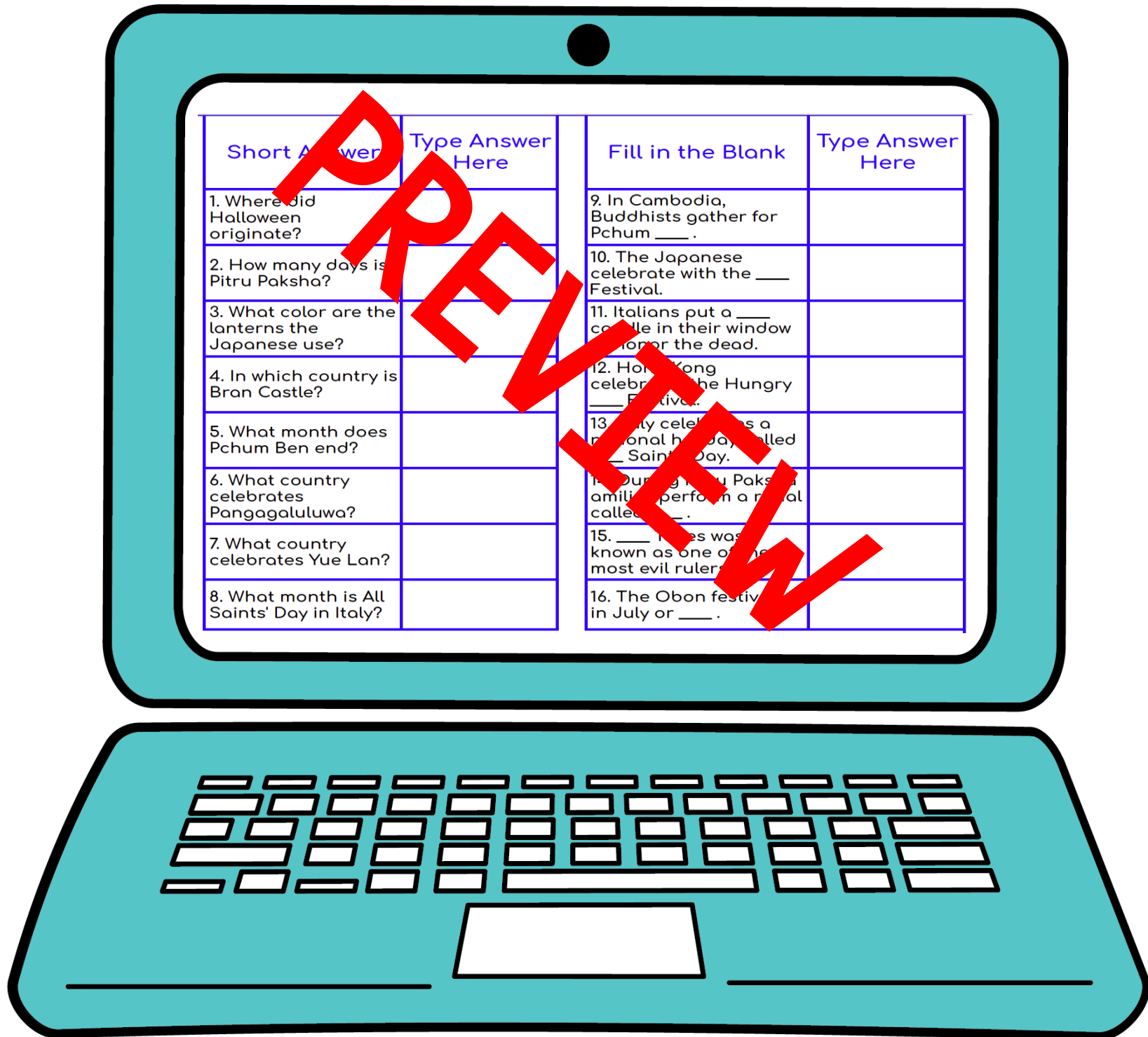


THE WORD
 "WITICE" COMES
 FROM THE OLD
 ENGLISH WICCE
 MEANING "WISE
 WOMAN"

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. Where did Halloween originate?	
2. How many days is Pitru Paksha?	
3. What color are the lanterns the Japanese use?	
4. In which country is Bran Castle?	
5. What month does Pchum Ben end?	
6. What country celebrates Pangagaluluwa?	
7. What country celebrates Yue Lan?	
8. What month is All Saints' Day in Italy?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. Where did Halloween originate?		9. In Cambodia, Buddhists gather for Pchum ____.	
2. How many days is Pitru Paksha?		10. The Japanese celebrate with the ____ Festival.	
3. What color are the lanterns the Japanese use?		11. Italians put a ____ candle in their window to honor the dead.	
4. In which country is Bran Castle?		12. Hong Kong celebrates the Hungry ____ Festival.	
5. What month does Pchum Ben end?		13. Italy celebrates a national holiday called ____ Saint's Day.	
6. What country celebrates Pangagaluluwa?		14. During Pitru Paksha, families perform a ritual called ____.	
7. What country celebrates Yue Lan?		15. ____ was known as one of the most evil rulers.	
8. What month is All Saints' Day in Italy?		16. The Obon festival is in July or ____.	

HALLOWEEN AROUND THE WORLD

Halloween is one of the world's oldest holidays, which first originated in Ireland. Many Europeans believe that Halloween is a time for magic and spirits that can communicate with the physical world. Ancient Celts once believed the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped on October 31st. During the overlap, ghosts of the dead returned to the living world, causing chaos. There are many countries around the world that have their own celebrations, rituals and traditions.

CAMBODIA: Buddhist families in Cambodia gather to celebrate Pchum Ben. Pchum Ben is a religious holiday coming from October 1st to September to mid-October. Pchum Ben is a day to celebrate the dead. People celebrate by visiting and cleaning temples. At the temples, they often leave baskets full of food, sticky rice, beans wrapped with banana leaves and flowers. Leaving baskets is a way to show respect to their family members that have passed.

UNITED STATES: Halloween is celebrated on October 31st every year. American traditions may include watching scary movies, attending costume parties, carving pumpkins and creating haunted houses. Children often dress up in scary costumes and go trick-or-treating. They visit homes in their neighborhood and ask for candy.

ITALY: Italy celebrates a national holiday called All Saints' Day on November 1st. Most Italians refer to the holiday as Ognissanti. Celebrations begin a few days before November 1st. People may leave fresh flowers on the graves of loved ones or complete strangers. Italians put a red candle in their window to honor the dead. They also set a place at the dinner table for the spirits they hope will visit them. All Saints' Day in Italy is similar to Christmas. Children wake up to find gifts and candy believed to have come from the dead.

INDIA: Many people in India celebrate Pitru Paksha for 16 days. In the Hindu religion, people believe that when a person dies a Hindu god of death takes their soul. It is believed that the souls are allowed to return to Earth and be with their families during Pitru Paksha. Families must perform a fire ritual, called Shradha, to ensure their family has a place in the afterlife. If the Shradha is not performed, the souls will wander for eternity.

JAPAN: The Japanese celebrate with the Obon Festival in July or August. Red lanterns are hung and food is prepared. Families place lit candles into the

red lanterns and set them afloat to honor loved ones. Families light fires to show their ancestors the path. Dances are performed and memorial stones are cleaned.

CHINA: The Halloween celebration in Hong Kong is called Yue Lan or the Hungry Ghost Festival. Sometime from mid-August to mid-September spirits supposedly roam the world freely. The festival is a way to honor and "feed" the spirits with food and money for their afterlife. Paper burning of photos or pictures of money is common. People light candles and try to avoid black cats.

ROMANIA: People from all around the world head to Romania to celebrate Halloween at Bran Castle in Transylvania. The castle of Vlad Tepes was the inspiration for Bram Stoker's "Dracula". Vlad Tepes was known as one of the most evil rulers in history. There are plenty of guides, tours and parties at Count Dracula's castle. Halloween parties may include attending a witch trial, having your fortunes read or watching witches try to make the ghost of Vlad appear.

PHILIPPINES: Halloween in the Philippines is known as Pangagaluluwa. On this day, children visit neighborhood houses and offer a song in exchange for money or candy. Filipinos call the event All Saints Day for November 1st and All Souls Day on November 2nd.

MEXICO: In many Spanish countries, Halloween is known as "El Día de los Muertos" or the Day of the Dead. The Day of the Dead is a three-day celebration that begins on October 31st. Families remember and honor those who have passed. In Mexico, monarch butterflies return to Mexico from the north. It is believed that the butterflies bear the spirits of those who are coming home. Families set up altars with flowers, bread, candy and pictures of family members. Those who celebrate also decorate colorful images of skeletons. It is a way to make people feel more comfortable with death.

GERMANY: In Germany, Halloween is celebrated in April and is referred to as "Walpurgisnacht". Walpurgisnacht is also known as "the witches sabbath". Children dress up and trick-or-treat in their neighborhoods. Witches are commonly portrayed in German woodcuttings and paintings with long skirts, capes, broomsticks and pointed hats. Witches, ghosts and souls are the most common costumes. An old German custom involves hanging knives in the house to prevent the relatives from harming each other.

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