



Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas

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While reading

Chapters 1–2

1 Make a map of Halloweentown.

Imagine Halloweentown and answer these questions.

- a Are there beautiful houses?
- b Where do people buy food?
- c Is there an important park?
- d What color are the buildings?
- e Where does the Mayor live?
- f Where is the churchyard?
- g Is there a zoo? Where?
- h Where in the world is Halloweentown?
- i What language do they speak?

2 Read carefully and complete these sentences.

- a The most important night for Jack was
- b It was October 31.
- c The didn't drink water because they didn't like it.
- d The had black dresses and big hats.
- e The most popular drink was
- f Jack was not a real person, he was a

3 Write a description.

Compare Halloweentown and Christmastown.

4 Use books or the Internet to learn more.

When is ...

- a Christmas?
- b Easter?
- c Thanksgiving?

What are the decorations at ...

- d Christmas?
- e Easter?
- f Thanksgiving?

What do people do at ...

- g Christmas?
- h Easter?
- i Thanksgiving?

5 Make a map of Christmastown.

Imagine Christmastown and answer these questions.

- a Are there beautiful houses?
- b Where do people buy food?
- c Is there an important park?
- d What color are the buildings?
- e Where does the Mayor live?
- f Where is the churchyard?
- g Is there a zoo? Where?

h Where in the world is Christmastown?

i What language do they speak?

6 Write a description.

Compare Halloweentown and Christmastown.

Chapters 3–4

7 Discuss with a friend.

What are the witches' ideas about Christmas?

What do skeletons, vampires and black cats think about Christmas?

8 Complete the sentences with *so* or *because*.

- a Everybody was happy it was Christmas.
- b I must go to Halloweentown I've got a great plan.
- c Sally used her spoon she didn't want to drink tea.
- d The spoon had holes Sally didn't drink any tea.
- e Jack was sad nobody understood Christmas.
- f Sally couldn't go out the doctor was not asleep.
- g The doctor can help me I'll go to his house.
- h Sally didn't talk to Jack she was a quiet girl.

9 Read page 13 again. Imagine Jack went to Eastertown, not to Christmastown. Write Jack's answers to the people's questions.

Example: *It's a world of wonderful flowers.*

Chapters 5–6

10 Write a letter to Jack. Tell Jack about Christmas.

11 Draw the decorations and presents for Christmas.

12 Read Chapter 6 again.

What are the three Oogie Boogie boys' names?

13 Write a dialogue.

Oogie Boogie wants to celebrate Christmas.

Write the dialogue between him and his three boys.

Chapters 7–8

14 Write a summary of the two chapters.

15 Read pages 29–32 again. Then look up *headline* in your dictionary. Write the headline for the two pages.



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16 Write why ...

- a the three boys made a mistake.
- b Santa was very busy in Christmastown.
- c Sally worked on her plan.
- d the reindeer couldn't see their noses.
- e everybody in Halloweentown shouted happily.

17 Draw the sleigh and all the presents.

18 Discuss with a friend.

Think of the right present for each person in Halloweentown. What is Santa Claus going to give them?

- Jack:
- Sally:
- Witches:
- Vampires:
- The Mayor:
- The Doctor:
- Skeletons:
- Oogie Boogie:
- The three boys:

Chapters 9–10

19 What are the children saying about their toys?

20 Jack thinks everybody is happy.

What do the people think and say? Write their words.

21 Read page 42 again. Write about Oogie Boogie's living room.

What can you see there? What color are the walls, the doors? Are there any windows?

22 Work with a friend.

Student A: Draw a picture of Oogie Boogie's living room. Describe it to student B but don't show the picture.
Student B: Listen to student A. Draw the picture he/she describes.
Now look at the two pictures. Are they the same or different?

Chapters 11–12

23 Read Chapter 11 again.

You're Zero. Tell *your* story.

24 Jack finds Sally with the flower.

Write the story for the town newspaper. Write the headline, too.

25 Write the conversation between Santa and his helpers and his wife when he goes back home.

26 Jack is in Halloweentown.

They have just celebrated Easter. What does he tell Santa about Halloweentown and the celebration?

After reading

27 Work with a friend.

Student A: Find a picture in the book and talk about what is in the picture. Do not show the picture to your friend.

Student B: do not look at the picture. Try to say what happens before and after the picture. Then find the picture.

28 You're the Mayor of Halloweentown. Write a brochure about the town for tourists. Write 10 sentences.

29 Discuss with a friend.

Is the ending happy or sad?
Change the ending.

30 Find the mistakes in this newspaper story. Underline the wrong words and write the right words.

Jack Skellington, one of the most important vampires in Halloweentown, finds Christmastown and learns about Easter, but he doesn't understand. He convinces the witches in his country to celebrate Easter, but it is funny. Santa Claus's wife helps Jack and now he understands the celebration. Jack and the Doctor become good friends and visit each other every week.

31 Draw an invitation card for a celebration in Halloweentown.

What are you celebrating?
What are you going to do?



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Chapters 1–2

1 What happened first? Put these in the right order.

Write the numbers, 1–8.

- a Jack found Christmastown.
- b Jack loved Christmastown.
- c Jack walked out of town.
- d Jack was unhappy.
- e Sally was sad and wanted to follow her friend.
- f The Mayor spoke to the people in Halloweentown.
- g The Mayor thanked Jack.
- h The people in Halloweentown were sad because Jack was not there.

Chapters 3–4

2 Who said it? Choose the right name. You can use the names more than once.

Jack Sally the Doctor the Mayor

- a "My plan is great!"
- b "I want my drink!"
- c "I'll use my spoon."
- d "I think that's Zero, Jack's dog."
- e "Where were you, Jack?"
- f "Christmastown is a wonderful place."
- g "Look, here's a toy."
- h "I've made a stupid mistake with the flowers."
- i "These chemicals are dangerous."
- j "He loves me!"

Chapters 5–6

3 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Jack found the answer to his questions late at night.
- b He wanted to celebrate Christmas.
- c He told his idea to the Mayor.
- d Jack asked Sally to make cakes.
- e The people in Halloweentown didn't want to help Jack.
- f Oogie Boogie's boys wanted to play a trick.
- g They wanted to teach Oogie Boogie a lesson.

Chapters 7–8

4 Match!

Complete the sentences using the right number.

- a Sally ...
- b The three boys ...
- c Jack ...
- d The Doctor ...
- e Santa Claus ...

- f Mrs. Claus ...
- g Santa's helpers ...
- 1 made a big mistake.
- 2 made nice reindeer.
- 3 was busy in his town.
- 4 made cakes.
- 5 made red clothes for Jack.
- 6 scared the animal with long ears.
- 7 made lovely presents.

Chapters 9–10

5 What's the right answer? Circle 1, 2, or 3.

- a The children shouted because ...
 - 1 Jack scared them.
 - 2 the toys were scary.
 - 3 they didn't get toys.
- b The police shot at Jack because ...
 - 1 they didn't like him.
 - 2 they were scared.
 - 3 people thought he was dangerous.
- c Sally ran to Oogie Boogie's house to ...
 - 1 help Santa Claus.
 - 2 talk to Jack.
 - 3 kill Oogie Boogie.

Chapters 11–12

6 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a The Mayor thought Jack was dead.
- b Oogie Boogie loved Jack.
- c Jack helped Santa Claus and Sally.
- d Santa killed Oogie Boogie.
- e Jack was sorry.
- f Santa gave everybody their presents.
- g Santa gave a nice present to the people in Halloweentown.