Birthday or Halloween

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Opinion writing tells what **you think** and **why**. Use **OREO**: state your **O**pinion, give **R**easons, add **E**xamples, then say your **O**pinion again.

Opinion words: *I think ... I believe ... In my opinion ... because ... For example ... That is why ...*



1. Fact or opinion?

Strong opinion writing uses facts as evidence. Circle **fact** or **opinion**.

1	Halloween is on October 31.	fact	opinion
2	Halloween costumes are the most fun part of fall.	fact	opinion
3	Everyone has a birthday once a year.	fact	opinion
4	Birthday cake is better than Halloween candy.	fact	opinion
5	Pumpkins are often carved into jack-o'-lanterns.	fact	opinion
6	Birthdays are the best day of the year.	fact	opinion

2. Opinion and reason

Circle the best answer.

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

(a) Halloween is in October.
(b) I think my birthday is better than Halloween.
(c) I have a costume.

2. Which is the strongest reason for choosing a birthday?

(a) The whole day is about you and the people you love.
(b) Birthdays are good.
(c) My birthday is in May.

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3. Plan with OREO

Prompt: Which is better: your birthday or Halloween? Plan your answer.

O – Opinion: what do you think?

R – Reason 1

E – Example for reason 1

R – Reason 2

E – Example for reason 2

O – Opinion again

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

Use your OREO plan.

Prompt: Which is better: your birthday or Halloween?

Check: ☐ Clear opinion ☐ Two reasons ☐ An example for each ☐ Linking words ☐ Opinion restated at the end

Answer Key

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1. Fact or opinion?

1	Halloween is on October 31.	**fact**	opinion
2	Halloween costumes are the most fun part of fall.	fact	**opinion**
3	Everyone has a birthday once a year.	**fact**	opinion
4	Birthday cake is better than Halloween candy.	fact	**opinion**
5	Pumpkins are often carved into jack-o'-lanterns.	**fact**	opinion
6	Birthdays are the best day of the year.	fact	**opinion**

2. Opinion and reason

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

- a. Halloween is in October.
- **b. I think my birthday is better than Halloween.**
- c. I have a costume.

2. Which is the strongest reason for choosing a birthday?

- **a. The whole day is about you and the people you love.**
- b. Birthdays are good.
- c. My birthday is in May.

3. Plan with OREO

Sample notes. Answers will vary.

O – Opinion: what do you think?
My birthday is better than Halloween.

R – Reason 1
The day is all about me.

E – Example for reason 1
My family makes my favourite breakfast and sings to me.

R – Reason 2
I get to choose what we do.

E – Example for reason 2
Last year we went bowling with my best friends.

O – Opinion again
That is why my birthday beats Halloween.

Model Answer

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

A model answer to share with students. Their writing will be different.

I think my birthday is better than Halloween. First, my birthday is a day that is all about me. For example, my family makes my favourite pancakes and sings to me before school. Another reason is that I get to choose what we do. Last year, I picked bowling, and my best friends came along. Halloween is fun, but everyone shares it. That is why my birthday beats Halloween.