

# Halloween costumes (teacher's notes)

## 1. Warm-up (Activity 1) 5 mins

**Aims:** to break the ice and foster a safe environment for learning.

**Procedure:** introduce the topic. Ask students or have them discuss the questions about Halloween in pairs.

## 2. "Moana, Elsa and Halloween" (Activity 2) 20 mins

**Aims:** to provide students with reading for gist practice.

**Procedure:** students read the text and discuss in pairs whether they agree with the author or not.

## 3. True or false? (Activity 3) 20 mins

**Aims:** to provide students with practice in reading for detail.

**Procedure:** students read the text again and choose true or false.

Key:

1. The author thinks that dressing up as Elsa promotes whiteness and white standards of beauty. **True**
2. The mother would have had no problem with her daughter dressing up as Moana if they had been able to find Polynesian artists to make her an authentic costume. **False**
3. The daughter agreed to dress up as a modern-day Moana but then changed her mind. **False**
4. The mother thinks you should only wear costumes from your own culture. **True**
5. The mother and her daughter have Argentinian roots. **True**

## 4. TV debate (Activity 4) 10 mins

**Aims:** to provide students with listening for gist practice.

**Procedure:** students watch the video and discuss which side won the argument.

**Play the video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc1cufUeZAM>

## 5. For and against (Activity 5) 10 mins

**Aims:** to provide students with listening for gist practice.

**Procedure:** students watch the video again and put the ideas expressed by the two speakers in chronological order.

Key:

1. To dress up in someone's native dress and use it as a costume is just mockery. It's offensive and disrespectful.
2. Constantly seeing everything in the prism of race is dangerous.
3. A little girl dressing up as Moana wouldn't be her mocking or in any way being disrespectful of Polynesian culture. That would be her dressing up as brilliant, strong female role-model from a film.
4. Children at some point need to become aware of race.
5. On the one hand little girls can't dress up as Polynesians because that's racist. On the other hand they can't dress up as somebody of their own ethnicity ( a white princess) because that's superior.
6. Dressing up in native dress from different cultures is celebrating those cultures.
7. If you are not from those cultures, you shouldn't wear their costumes.

## 6. Letter to the author (Activity 6) (optional activity/homework)

**Aims:** to provide students with writing practice.

**Procedure:** students write a letter to the author of the article "Moana, Elsa and Halloween" and express their opinion on the issue.

## 7. Sum up 3-5 mins

Summarise the lesson and tell students what results they have achieved (Now you can ... After our reading and speaking lesson you will be able to....). Ask them if they have any questions. Conduct delayed error correction if needed.