



About the Material

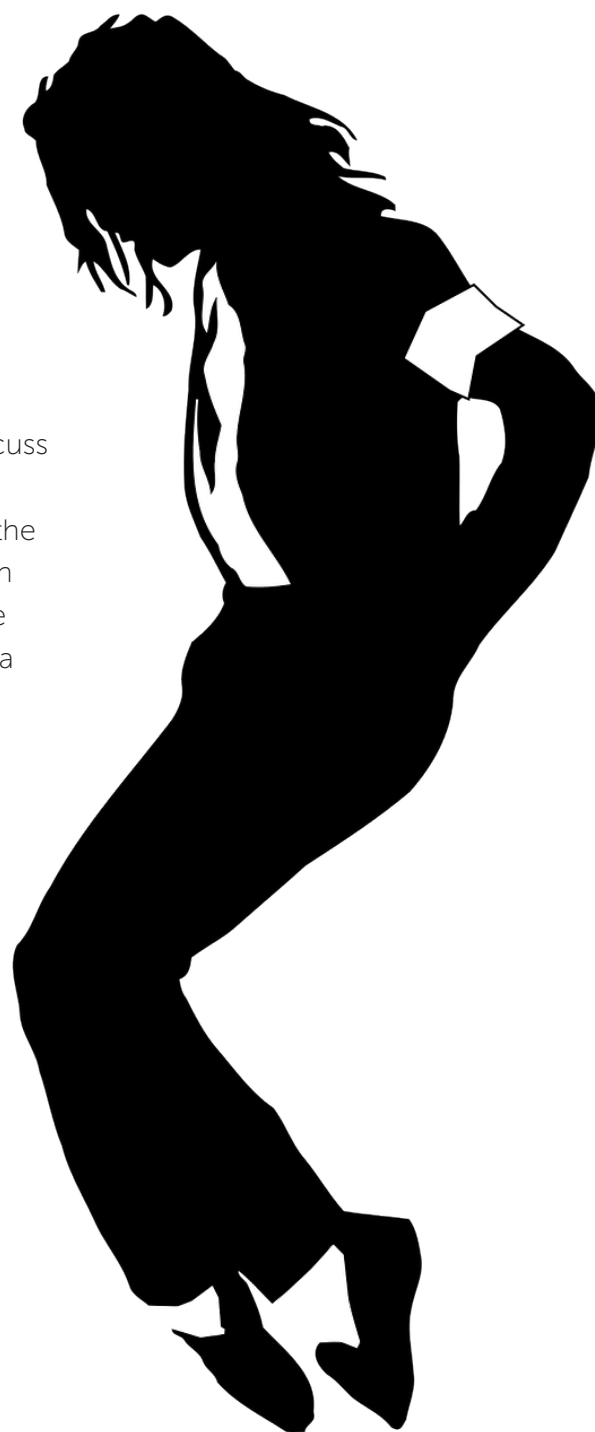
Here is a list of activities that can be used with your Year 8 students to mark Halloween. At the heart of all the activities is the most popular Halloween-themed song ever – "Thriller" by Michael Jackson.

ACTIVITY 1 THE HALLOWEEN SONG

Students work in groups. The teacher gives a copy of the "Thriller" lyrics to each group. Students read the lyrics and discuss what the song is about. The teacher then gives an envelope containing cards (see next page) with some vocabulary from the song with definitions to each group. The groups should match the words with their definitions by looking up the words in the song's context. They check their answers with the teacher as a whole-class activity. They end the activity by listening to and then singing "Thriller". If there is time for more activities, the teacher tells students that they are going to need the same vocabulary in the activity(ies) that follow.

ACTIVITY 2 HALLOWEEN Pictionary

Students play this well-known game in groups of 4 or 5. The teacher gives word cards to each group. One student draws a picture on the word card and the others guess. They take turns doing this. The winner is the student who guesses the most words. NOTE: Use the words from the song or some other Halloween-related vocabulary. Suggestion ("Thriller" vocabulary): *to lurk, moonlight, paralyzed, beast, to strike, cold hand, to creep, masquerade, jaws, demon, to cuddle, screen, tight, to crawl.*





1 to lurk	to wait or move in a secret way so that you cannot be seen, especially because you are about to attack someone or do something wrong
2 to creep up	to move slowly, quietly and carefully, usually in order to avoid being noticed
3 masquerade	behaviour that is intended to prevent the truth about something unpleasant or something that shouldn't become known
4 jaws	the mouth of a person or animal, especially a large and frightening animal
5 to strike	to hit or attack someone or something forcefully or violently
6 to cuddle	to put your arms around someone and hold them in a loving way, or to hold each other close to show love or for comfort
7 to crawl	to move slowly or with difficulty, especially with your body stretched out along the ground or on hands and knees
8 tight	(held or kept together) firmly or closely

ACTIVITY 3 THE “THRILLER” PUZZLE

After singing “Thriller” several times, the groups are given envelopes with the song cut into pieces, i.e. the verses are mixed up. Their task is to put the song back together. This activity can be organised as a class competition to see which group is the quickest and the most accurate.

ACTIVITY 4 VERSE CHANGING

Students are divided into groups. Each group gets one or more verses from “Thriller”. There are some words missing (the teacher erases them) in each verse and students have to think of some new, alternative words to complete them. The teacher’s role is to specify whether the students have to think of words that will make the verse(s) sound funny or scary.

