

Text: HALLOWEEN

Harry Potter



On Hallowe'en morning they woke to a delicious smell of baking pumpkin wafting through the corridors. Even better, Professor Flitwick announced in Charms that he thought they were ready to start making objects fly, something they had all been dying to try since they'd seen him make Neville's toad zoom around the classroom. Professor Flitwick put the class into pairs to practise. Harry's partner was Seamus Finnigan. Ron, however, was to be working with Hermione Granger. It was hard to tell whether Ron or Hermione was angrier about this. She hadn't spoken to either of them since the day Harry's broomstick had arrived.

'Now, don't forget that nice wrist movement we've been practising!' squeaked Professor Flitwick, perched on top of his pile of books as usual. *'Swish and flick, remember, swish and flick.'*

And saying the magic words properly is important, too – never forget Wizard Baruffio, who said 's' instead of 'f' and found himself on the floor with a buffalo on his chest.'

It was very difficult. Harry and Seamus swished and flicked, but the feather they were supposed to be sending skywards just lay on the desktop. Seamus got so impatient that he prodded it with his wand and set it to fire – Harry had to put it out with his hat.

Ron, at the next table, wasn't having much more luck.

'Wingardium Leviosa!' he shouted, waving his long arms like a windmill.

'You're saying it wrong,' Harry heard Hermione snap. *'It's Win-gar-dium Levi-o-sa, make the "gar" nice and long.'*

'You do it, then, if you're so clever,' Ron snarled.

Hermione rolled up the sleeves of her gown, flicked her wand and said, *'Wingardium Leviosa!'*

Their feather rose off the desk and hovered about four feet above their heads.

'Oh, well done!' cried Professor Flitwick, clapping. *'Everyone see here, Miss Granger's done it!'*

Ron was in a very bad temper by the end of the class.

'It's no wonder no one can stand her,' he said to Harry as they pushed their way into the crowded corridor. *'She's a nightmare, honestly.'*

Someone knocked into Harry as they hurried past him. It was Hermione. Harry caught a glimpse of her face – and was startled to see that she was in tears.

'I think she heard you.'

'So?' said Ron, but he looked a bit uncomfortable. *'She must've noticed she's got no friends.'*

Hermione didn't turn up for the next class and wasn't seen all afternoon.

On their way down to the Great Hall for the Hallowe'en feast, Harry and Ron overheard Parvatti Patil telling her friends Lavender that Hermione was crying in the girls' toilets and wanted to be left alone. Ron looked still more awkward at this, but a moment later they had entered the Great Hall, where the Hallowe'en decorations put Hermione out of their minds.

A thousand live bats fluttered from the walls and ceiling while a thousand more swooped over the tables in low black clouds, making candles in the pumpkin stutter. The feast appeared suddenly on the golden plates, as it had at the start-of-term banquet.

Harry was just helping himself to a jacket potato when Professor Quirrel came sprinting into the Hall, his turban askew and terror on his face. Everyone stared as he reached Professor Dumbledore's chair, slumped against the table and gasped, *'Troll – in the dungeons – thought you ought to know.'*

He then sank to the floor in a dead faint.



1. Reading Comprehension:

- a) Are the following statements about the text TRUE or FALSE?
 b) Correct the 'false' statements!

1. The pupils had to work in groups of three.	TRUE / FALSE
2. Harry and Ron hadn't said a word to Hermione since the day Harry's new broomstick had arrived.	TRUE / FALSE
3. Professor Flitwick once made Neville's pet (<i>see picture</i>) fly around in the classroom.	TRUE / FALSE
4. Harry had to catch the feather with his hat because it didn't want to return to his desk.	TRUE / FALSE
5. Hermione didn't take the classes in the afternoon.	TRUE / FALSE
6. A few bats flew around in the Great Hall.	TRUE / FALSE
7. Harry gave a jacked potato to Professor Quirrel.	TRUE / FALSE
8. Professor Quirrel stumbled over the table and passed out.	TRUE / FALSE

**2. Vocabulary: Crossword**

DOWN	ACROSS
1. to fly down, to plunge	2. to drift, to float
3. a plume	3. to wave, to flap
6. cell, prison	4. a quick look
7. to rest on, to balance on	5. uncomfortable
8. upset, shocked, worried	9. a stick
13. struggle for breath	10. dress
	11. hallway
	12. to shrill, to yelp
	14. hear somebody saying something by accident



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Harry Potter: Halloween Crossword

Find the words in the text!



