

New Teachers: New Hopes Pt. 2

Co-Editors
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Welcome back this will be the second part of our new teachers. Come along as we go on this adventure to meet more of our teachers. We once again thank everyone who participated for their responses and their pictures. We do hope that we can appreciate the teachers and know a little more about them.

Where were you born?
Where else have you lived?
What brought you to Clovis?

Ms. Mondragon:
 I was born in Levelland, Texas (24 miles south of Lubbock). I lived in Levelland until I was 15 years old when I moved to Clovis. My dad was a farmer all his life and came to Clovis to start a new job. I moved to Clovis, met my husband, and we decided to stay here!

Mr. Neace:
 I was born in Bradenton, Florida. My family moved to Kentucky when I was 2 and I lived there until I left for the Air

Mr. Rasher



Force in 2007. I have lived in Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, Georgia, and New Mexico. I was stationed in Clovis from 2007-2011 with the Air Force and met my wife while stationed here. We moved back to Clovis in 2014 when I separated from the Air Force.

Ms. Parker:
 Clovis, New Mexico is the only other state I have lived in. Teaching brought me to Clovis, New Mexico.

Mr. Pickett:
 Brunswick, Georgia. Lived in Savannah Georgia

Mr. Rasher:
 I was born in Germany! I have lived in California, Texas, and New Mexico (Farmington, Las Cruces, and Clovis). I came to the Clovis area because of a scholarship I earned to run track at Eastern New Mexico University.

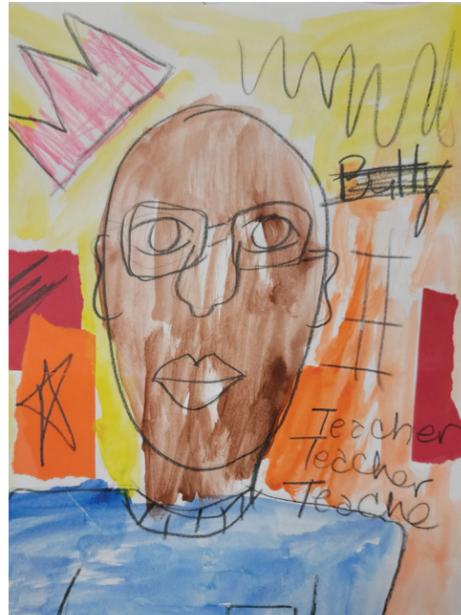
Mr. Sansom:
 I was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, and am still a Canadian citizen. I grew up in Maine and lived in Vermont, Washington, and New Mexico.

Ms. Schlueter:
 I was born in Santa Fe and spent most of my life in Aztec, New Mexico. I also lived in Portales while I went to college. And we lived in Montana one summer. We moved to Clovis to get closer to Texas before I retire.

Ms. Sena:
 Plainview, Texas; Tulia, Texas; Farwell, Texas; Texico, New Mexico (I don't live in Clovis.)

If you're a teacher/administrator/counselor what subjects can you teach?

Ms. Mondragon:
 I am a teacher. I have a degree in Business Administration, have a Master's degree in Management with a special-



Self portrait of Mr. Pickett

ization in Human Resources, and a Master's degree in Secondary Education. What subjects can I teach? I guess a lot! I teach Spanish and I have a bi-lingual certification.

Mr. Neace:
 I am a teacher and I am licensed to teach Social Studies.

Ms. Parker:
 I am able to teach subjects EC-12th Grade in Special Education

Mr. Pickett:
 Art and Gifted

Mr. Rasher:
 I can teach English and Science

Mr. Sansom:
 I can teach culinary arts and English.

Ms. Schlueter:
 I teach Algebra II, College Prep Math, and Teacher Academy this year.

Ms. Sena:
 Pre- K-12 Language Arts & Reading, TESOL endorsement

Why did you choose to teach, administrate, or counsel? Do you plan to retire as a teacher or do you see yourself in another profession?

Ms. Mondragon:
 I was called by a friend to teach - At the time, Clovis Municipal Schools was in desperate need of bilingual educators. I came into this profession to just try it and I ended up LOVING it! At this time, I plan to continue to teach and pay into my retirement plan. I would like to retire from Clovis Municipal Schools.

Mr. Neace:
 I have always enjoyed teaching. I was an instructor in the military and I realized during that time that I could have a future doing this. Another thing that drives me towards teaching is coaching. I love being able to coach our student-athletes in football and baseball.

Ms. Parker:
 Teaching for me is beyond the classroom walls regardless of in the school or the community.

Mr. Pickett:
 Teacher: Passion for sharing art. Administrator: To help students

Mr. Rasher:
 I became a teacher because I wanted to work and inspire



Mr. Sansom

youth in the same way my teachers and coaches worked and inspired me. I believe I

will teach for as long as I can!

Mr. Sansom:

I became a teacher because I enjoy teaching and sharing knowledge from experience. I also appreciate the time off, which is hard to find in the culinary industry. I plan on retiring as a teacher in 23 years.

Ms. Schlueter:

I always wanted to be a teacher. Then I had an amazing math teacher in junior high and high school, who made



Mr. Neace and his son

me want to teach math. I plan to teach at the college level after I retire from teaching in public schools.

Ms. Sena:

My love of children, as well as my own love of learning, drew me to teaching. I grew up in a family of educators, my grandfather was a superintendent. I am passionate about teaching!!!! I entered the counseling profession because I was eager to make a difference in a different capacity and I love helping people, help themselves!!!!

How has the pandemic made you view your job?

Ms. Mondragon:

I still love to teach! I had to take a lot of classes online when I was in college. The only difference was that I was now the educator and not the student! I still love teaching and am willing to log in to Google Meet and make myself available to students.

Mr. Neace:

It has shown me just how important this job is for students and families.

Ms. Parker:

The pandemic just has inspired me to continue to empower, teach and support children

Mr. Pickett:

The pandemic helped me to appreciate having a job

Mr. Rasher:

I very much enjoy my job! There are good and not so great parts like any job, but I enjoy what I do.

Mr. Sansom:

The pandemic has greatly expanded my teaching through online platforms such as Google Classroom. I use a lot less paper now and enjoy the organization of online classrooms.

Ms. Schlueter:

I have had to learn a lot of new things to teach through the pandemic. It has been a challenging time

Ms. Sena:

The pandemic has forced me to grow in areas and learn new ways of doing things. I am so thankful for IN PERSON/LIVE classes and will never complain again about being at school again. I know how much I NEED to be around students every day! They are what keep me going!!!

Who would you say is your hero/heroine and why?

Ms. Mondragon:

My hero is Jesus Christ! Without Him, I would have NOTHING!

Mr. Neace:

Definitely my Grandpa. He has always been a great example and role model and has played a huge role in who I am today. He has never let me down and has always been my guide for how a man should live. Additionally, each and every person who has given their lives in service to our country, communities, or a greater cause is and always will be my hero/heroine.

Ms. Parker:

My Faith is the most important

Mr. Pickett:

I would consider James Baldwin to be my hero because of his perspective on society

Mr. Rasher:

I have many heroes because there are so many attributes of different people that I admire. I try to model success the best I can but I can not choose one.

Mr. Sansom:

My hero is Nassim Hamein because he connects information on physics, geometry, cosmology, quantum mechanics, biology, and chemistry as well as anthropology and archeology.

Ms. Schlueter:

Jesus, number one, because I wouldn't have hope for the future without him. Then my grandparents and my mom because of all the love and hard work that they put into raising me right

Ms. Sena:

My hero is my mama. She provides me with guidance, motherly love, and has always been there for me and my family. She continues to support me in every way possible and has taught me so many valuable life lessons. She is a retired teacher that spent her entire career in Clovis Schools. Let's be honest, ALL teachers are superheroes!!!

If you were on a desert island what genre of music/musical artist would you bring and why?

Ms. Mondragon:

Marco Antonio Solis is a Mexican legend. I love his music! The lyrics of his music make me reflect on so many things in life.

Mr. Neace:

This one is tough for me. My mood at the time would decide that. I love music in general. At any given time, I could be listening to country, rock, metal, hip-hop, r & b, or bluegrass.

Ms. Parker:

A mix CD (Christian, hip-hop,

Ms. Parker



Ms. Schlueter

country, rap, jazz, etc). I like to listen to a variety of music.

Mr. Pickett:

Public Enemy: It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Me Back

Mr. Rasher:

This isn't really a genre, but the "Awesome Mix" from Guardians of The Galaxy movies would be the music I would take with me!

Mr. Sansom:

My desert music would hand down be the Icelandic band, Sigur Ros, as I consider them the best post-rock band of all time.

Ms. Schlueter:

Christian music - I love Crowder, Tobymac, Lauren Daigle, Mercy Me, Casting Crowns - their music lifts me up and gives me hope.

Ms. Sena:

KLOVE! Gotta have my Jesus jams!!!

If you had a life-changing experience, describe it and how did it change your life?

Ms. Mondragon:

have been very fortunate to not have anything tragic happen in my life. I was raised by strict, religious parents and I believe their high expectations and the Catholic morals and values have shaped me into who I am today.

Mr. Neace:

I've had a few life-changing experiences. They have changed how I see the world, my outlook for each day, and my respect for those who serve others.

Ms. Parker:

It is important to appreciate life each day. Always remember a new day is a new begin-

ning and opportunity.

Mr. Pickett:

I almost drowned as a kid. I'm an overly cautious person because of it.

Mr. Rasher:

A life-changing experience that I have had was being attacked by a pit bull when I was eight. This was a difficult time for me when I was younger as I was never supposed to be able to play sports ever again. Instead, I practiced and worked up my strength in order to do the things I wanted to do. This taught me that with effort and determination I can do anything.

Mr. Sansom:

My life-changing experience would be meeting my wife and starting a family 19 years ago.

Ms. Schlueter:

There are so many, good and bad. But having my children definitely changed my life and taught me more than I could ever imagine.

Ms. Sena:

My life-changing experience was having a son born legally deaf that had bilateral cochle-



Ms. Sena

ar implant surgery at the age of 18 months. I learned how important it is to fight for someone's needs to be met, how to be an advocate, how to have patience in the tough times, the A dream and trust the process, and I had the blessing of watching a little OVERCOMER develop into an amazing kiddo right before my eyes. Anything is possible with hard work and dedication! NEVER, EVER give up!

Describe your dream vacation.

Ms. Mondragon:

I would love to go to Maldives!

Mr. Neace:

White sands, clear water, no phone, no computer, boat, no schedule, and no responsibilities. You could also replace white sands with



mountains and I'd be just as good.

Ms. Parker:

My dream vacation is to travel to Switzerland and the Maldives. I love the water, serenity, and the beauty of the ocean, and learning about the people in their community.

Mr. Pickett:

Australia

Mr. Rasher:

I would love to go to Japan. Japanese culture is amongst my favorite cultures and it would be so much fun to travel the country and experience their authentic foods.

Mr. Sansom:

My dream vacation would be cycling Europe on a road bike.

Ms. Sena:

The Bahamas for sure!!!! Swimming, sun, and sand..... can it get any better???

What favorite series do you

Ms. Mondragon



watch on streaming services and why?

Ms. Mondragon:

Nothing! I like to watch Mexican telenovelas. I pay Dish every month for cable. I

record the novelas I want and watch them when I have free time.

Mr. Neace:

My favorite series is Yellowstone. It's a great series and it keeps you hooked.

Ms. Parker:

I love the shows Criminal Minds, Investigation Discovery, Perry Mason because you learn about individuals and the opportunity to solve the storyline.

Mr. Pickett:

All the Star Trek series. The speculation of new technology and a better world(s) I find appealing.

Mr. Rasher:

"You" is one of my favorite series at the moment because of its main character Joe. I enjoy shows that make me think and make me predict what is going to happen. I am also a big anime fan!

Mr. Sansom:

My favorite series would be "The Office" because it is a classic!

Ms. Schlueter:

I rarely get to watch TV for myself, but I really like This is Us.

Ms. Sena:

Bachelor/Bachelorette (DOESN'T everybody???) & The Chosen (It really brings the bible to life.)

A big thanks to all teachers who sent in their responses! Those who aren't in this issue will be in the following one. We see and appreciate all the things you do for our wonderful school and all of the students you teach.



The Drive For Electric Cars

**Co-Editor
Noah Luscombe**

The electric car has become a staple in modern society. Being able to charge any and everywhere, no cost for gas, and all at the median

cost of \$55,990 for recent Tesla models. The media seems split on how to feel about these brand-new vehicles. On one end is praise for environmental friendliness and their reliability; on the other, there's the talk of

battery fires and explosions in driveways as well as on the road. For how much they cost, could they possibly meet expectations?

Norway is currently leading the market with elec-

tric vehicles, a supposed 9 of 10 cars being sold there are electric according to an NPR article posted this month. This is most likely due to the fact that by buying an electric car the people of Norway do not have to pay the 25%

ing. There have been multiple

agreed to pay \$1.9 billion of the expected 2.0 billion to recall and fix all cars from when they first went on sale in 2016. Are the cars truly eco-friendly if they're burning up and putting worse things into the atmosphere?

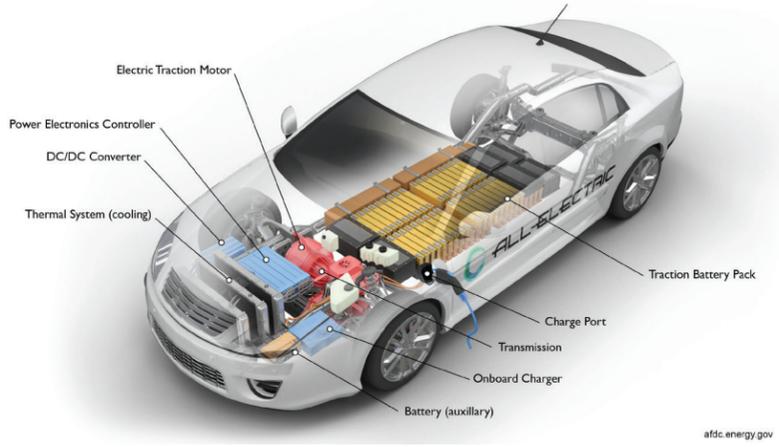
charge and a fast, strong car.

Despite the many flaws it must be remembered that while the concept of electric cars isn't exactly new, these models and creations have a new goal, which is to protect the environment. With some tweaks and improvements, I believe the electric car could be made safer and more reliable in the coming years. These cars may soon be more available and more affordable as well as the safest possible option for the future citizens of the world.

There are many obvious advantages and disadvantages in the industry. There are the ever-so-clear costs, the batteries being made of a rare metal known as lithium, and while you can charge anywhere it may take some time to do so, not to mention the danger of setting out on the road with chances of sudden fires. What are the pros to owning and using an electric car? Well, with energy efficiency and a much-needed reduction of stress on the atmosphere with carbon emissions maybe the eco-friendly route wouldn't be so bad. There is also the added use of availability to

<https://www.npr.org/2021/10/08/1044330824/norway-electric-vehicle-car-sales-evs> <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/10/12/lg-chem-to-pay-up-to-1point9-billion-to-gm-over-bolt-ev-battery-fires.html> <https://www.energysage.com/electric-vehicles/101/pros-and-cons-electric-cars/>

All-Electric Vehicle



mental pollution tax that is applied to gas and diesel owners. This is astonishing and shaves off lots of the normal costs of owning a car, and all in the name of eco-friendliness.

accounts of fires with pretty much every new electric car model regardless of price or brand. Brands such as Tesla, Chevrolet, and Fisker have all been seen to have this issue. General Motors has been recalling older Chevy Bolt cars due to their tendency to catch fire, presumably due to the batteries. The batteries were from South Korean company LG Electronics, which has

Despite their attractive designs and eco-friendly promise, electric cars have been known to cause multiple issues; these can sometimes even be life-threaten-

Sweater Weather

Co-editor Hailey Larson

Ever look around during the months of September-November and see the beautiful leaves of fall. The amazing smell of pumpkin and the leaves all around. The eagerness for Halloween just around the corner. The season of beautiful arrays of colors and the amazing vivid sights of pumpkin patches. The haunted houses that scare people but they still go for the thrill or the adventure of it.

beautifully confusing one. It can be warm but cold. The season of sweater weather and colors of orange, yellow, and brown is typically what we think of. A warm feeling of being at ease with the world as you look around.

The time seems to fall back during Autumn. Daylight savings change and the sun goes down sooner making the days shorter. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep. Don't forget to set your time back an hour on November 7th.

Autumn is a season of beautiful fashions and amazing colors. We all know autumn for Halloween and Thanksgiving. One holiday for candy and frights, the other for giving thanks to the ones we are thankful for. The smell of pumpkin pie in the oven. The caramel apples that are just so sweet. The weather is growing colder and filling our hearts to be warmer.

The amazing season of autumn brings a warm feeling to people all around the world. The season is such a beautiful time where people can come together. The leaves start to fall and you know it's right around the corner. The decor for the spooky season ahead. Being able to look ahead for all that is to come. School back from summer and things start to calm down around the world.

Animals are getting ready for slumber as humans have fires. The mornings beginning with the crisp autumn air. The season is a

In November the holiday we think of is Thanksgiving. A beautiful holiday is about being thankful for the things in your life



and taking a moment to say thanks. We typically think of the feast that you can't be judged for just because it's considered rude if you don't eat. Gathered around family and friends being able to enjoy people for who they are.

leaves are coming off the trees. As the leaves fall and the holidays come closer do you know your plans?

Autumn is one season that you don't forget. The amazing sites and colors make it such a lovely season. Most tend to think of autumn as "fall" as the



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Halloween Is A Town

Layout Assistant Alison Paige

Halloween, a favorite holiday for many, is around the corner. People have many different traditions they do or have done each year; whether it be going trick or treating, going through haunted houses, or just seeing holiday decorations set up by neighbors. Even though I've grown up and more than likely won't go trick or treating again, I can always reminisce about many of the Halloweens from when I was itty bitty. It always felt magical to go trick or treating, and when I was younger I used to always get impatient at the thought of being older and getting to trick or treat on my own. That probably won't happen now because of my disinterest in trick or treating now.

When I was younger, Halloween was fun but also scary as a little kid. I remem-



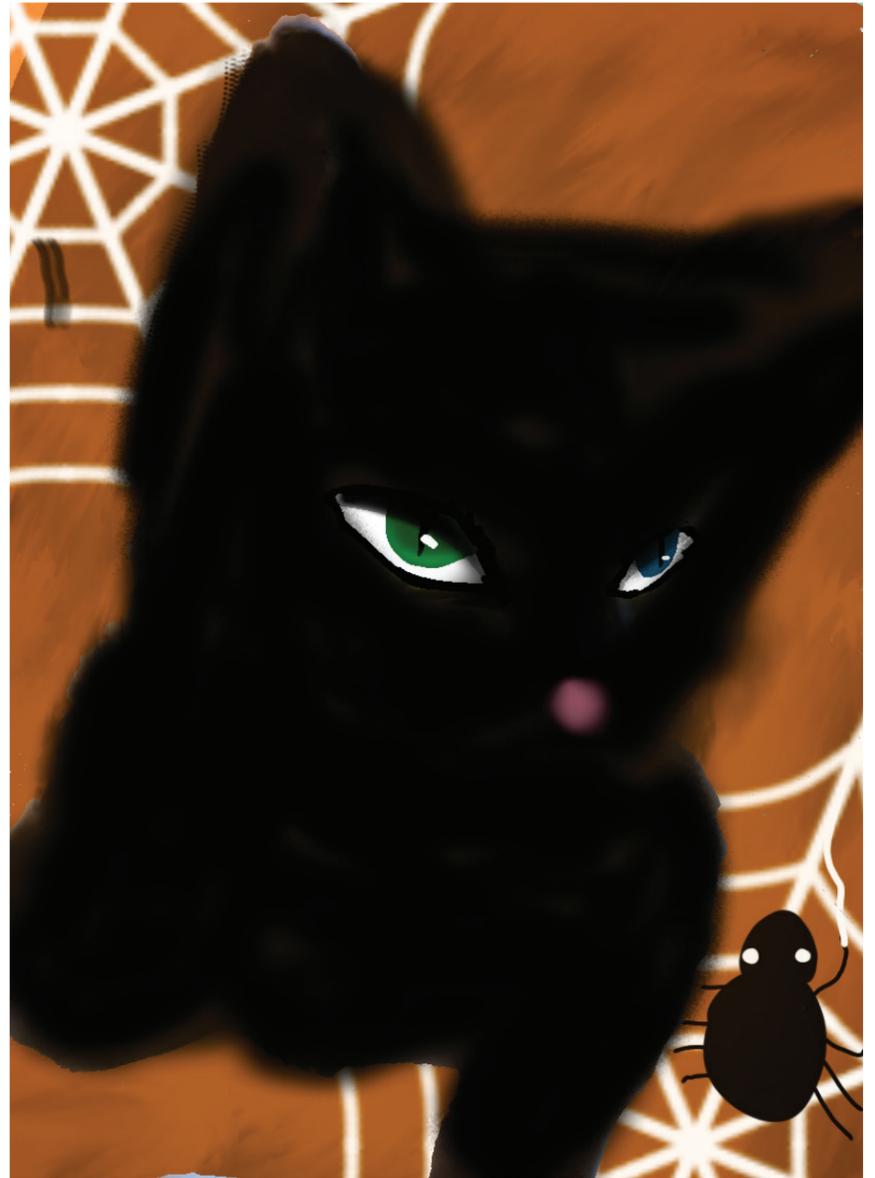
ber one of the Halloweens I went trick or treating, I can't remember how old I was. But while coming up one of the streets I heard a loud chainsaw sound and saw a guy in a scary costume at the doorway of a house. I froze right where I stood. My mom tried to comfort me but I was still scared from what I saw. Even as I got older some attractions or decorations still spook me.

There was another Halloween when I was a little older and I remember

coming home from trick or treating with my mom and I sat down on the couch to see Trick 'r Treat playing on the TV. "Trick 'r Treat is a 2007 American anthology horror comedy film written and directed by Michael Dougherty and produced by Bryan Singer...It relates four Halloween horror stories with a common element in them, Sam; a mysterious child trick-or-treater wearing shabby orange footie pajamas with a burlap sack over his head. The character makes an appearance in each of the stories whenever one of the other characters breaks a Halloween tradition." It was somewhere in the middle of the movie when we came home. Looking back on it now, having watched the movie a few times already, it's nostalgic to me.

Another Halloween I remember is a little vague memory-wise because all I mainly remember was I think being around 3 or 4 years old in the late 2000s and just roaming around the living room watching TV being a typical little kid. But I was watching the old Goosebumps, and I'm pretty sure it was the episode about the living dummy. I think it got to the point in the episode where the dummy was scaring the kids and me being little and not really understanding myself, I got a bit scared. To be honest, looking back on those memories, some of them feel unreal with what little I remember. "Trina O'Dell's dad used to be a famous ventriloquist, but now he only collects and refurbishes old ventriloquist dolls in his spare time. Trina's dad finds Slappy in the trash and adds him to his collection. After reading the words that come with Slappy, not only does the evil dummy come to life, but so does his entire collection."

Something else that's a bit of a tradition for my family and I is watching 'The Nightmare Before Christmas'. I mean who doesn't love that movie. It's a classic. I also really love it because it has both elements of Halloween



and Christmas and I love the music in the movie, it just sounds so nice to my ears. "What happens when the Pumpkin King is totally over Halloween? If you're Jack Skellington, you tumble into Christmas Town and set your mind to make this the best Christmas ever—even if that means kidnapping Santa. He puts his plan into action to goofy and macabre results."

Oh, another classic movie my family and I have watched for a while is 'Halloweentown'. It's very nostalgic to me, I remember all the years my family and I would watch the movie. I remember the old Disney channel when they'd play the holiday movies and just other old Disney stuff. I grew up watching a lot of those movies and tv shows and when looking back on a lot of those memories I appreciate having been able to watch that stuff especially the holiday movies I saw. "Marnie Piper (Kimberly J. Brown) is toughing it out in a household that can't stand Halloween, but little does she know she'll soon be living out every tween's dream: She's actually a witch and has magical powers.

After overhearing a conversation between her mother and grandmother, Marnie sets off to see for herself if Halloweentown is real—and boy is it ever!"

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To Be Or Not To Be Spooked

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It's the 'spooky season' of October and ghosts are spooky so here's some ghosts because why not. A ghost can be described as 'a memory of a person or place' and in most writing and theatre, a ghost is normally some kind of spirit or as previously mentioned, a memory of a person and they usually show up to give the characters some kind of message or they want revenge or something along those lines.

In 'Hamlet', there is a ghost and it's supposedly Hamlet's father, trying to tell his son 'your uncle killed me, can you kill him for me'. Hamlet is suspicious of this because what if it's some evil demon trying to get him to commit a murder and he knows murder is bad so he doubts that this is really the ghost of his father or if this is even the truth. But then he learns 'no this is the real deal' and kills his uncle in the end. The ghost of Hamlet's father is important because if he never showed up to tell Hamlet the truth his spirit would be suffering in purgatory and Claudius would have gotten away with killing his own brother for power. Yes 'The Lion King' ripped off this story but at least Mufasa never told Simba to commit murder he just pushed his uncle off a cliff and let the hyenas finish him off.

In 'A Christmas Carol' there are 3 ghosts and the ghost of Scrooge's old friend is there too but the mentioned 3 are slightly more critical. They are the ghosts of the past, present, and future. They are there telling Scrooge 'hey stop being a bad person or

you'll die alone and go to hell'. Scrooge also sees the ghost of his friend who he started his shop with and he says 'you're awful, how could you betray me'. This scares Scrooge so much he vows to be a better person, to change things for the better of everyone, and to stop being a greedy old man. If the ghosts never showed up, people's lives would be worse. The poor would still be suffering, and Scrooge would go to hell.

In 'Richard III' Richard is a power-hungry Duke of Gloucester, who kills several people on his quest for the crown. While he is asleep, all the victims he killed come back as ghosts to haunt him and yell terrible things at him, fitting for the terrible person he is while encouraging Richmond and he kills Richard and is crowned king. Richard is shamed by the ghosts for being a murderous person, and the ghosts encourage Richmond to take the throne from Richard.

The 'Turn of the Screw' is about an inexperienced young governess who's charged with caring for Miles and Flora. These two children were abandoned by their uncle at his grand country house. The governess sees the figure of an unknown man on the tower and his face at the window, she also sees a woman. The housekeeper, Mrs. Duke Grose, identifies the man as Peter Quint who was the master's valet, and the woman as Miss Jessel the former governess. But they're both dead. It's a subtle, self-conscious exploration of the haunted house of Victorian culture. The 'Turn of the Screw' can be read as a straightforward frightening ghost story. But as time has gone on people have suspected the ghosts to be



figments of the governess' imagination.

From these examples the majority of these ghosts wanted revenge, like Hamlet's father trying to tell Hamlet to kill Claudius and Richard's victims encouraging Richmond to kill Richard and take the crown. The other ones from 'A Christmas Carol' were warning Scrooge of what would happen if he continued his life the way he was currently living, and to be a better person and help the other people around him.

The ghosts in 'The Turn of the Screw' have been thought of as nothing more than delusions. Some other ghosts that are not in theatre but in 'Coraline' are 3 little ghost children who were killed by 'the other mother' and allowed her to sew buttons onto their eyes. They come to Coraline to tell her what happened to them, to not trust the other mother, that she needs to escape, never come

back, and also to find their eyes. They are important because they tell Coraline what this world is really like and that she is in danger, they also tell her how to defeat the other mother and seal this world away forever.

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Halloween Is Celtic!

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What is the true meaning of Halloween? Halloween originated from the ancient Celtic holiday, Samhain. Over the centuries, Halloween transitioned from a Pagan

ritual to a day of parties, costumes, jack-o-lanterns, and trick-or-treating for kids and adults. Halloween is the time of year people go to extremes in celebration. It's a

holiday to enjoy with friends and family or even by yourself.

It all started with the Celtic holiday of Samhain, marking the end of harvest

and the beginning of the cold harsh winter soon to come. The Celts were a collection of tribes with European origins with shared religious beliefs, cultures, and traditions. They founded their tribes in most of western Europe with their consanguinity still prominent in Great Britain and Ireland. Two thousand years later they are still significant to the continuation and history of Halloween.

In 17th century New England, the Salem witch trials were a series of prosecutions of women who people believed were involved with witchcraft. This series was one of the most notorious in mass hysteria. At the 300th anniversary events in 1992

to commemorate the victims of the trials. There was a park dedicated to the memories of the Salem witch trials. In January of 2016, the children at the University of Virginia announced that their gallows hill project had determined the executions of the so-called "witches" were hanged. Over the years, the witches have become a Halloween icon. As people all over the world dress up as witches in symbol of their history.

October 31st, is a night where people dress up and go out to celebrate. Some people give out candy while others have costume parties. There is a wide range of things to do on Halloween night. This holiday has



become more hectic over the years. For example, it was a trend to dress up as killer clowns and scare people to great measures. It was a huge thing as the clowns started lurking and trespassing on properties to scare children or families. With that being said it brought more Halloween tradition and spirit to communities.

The tradition of Celebrations over the years has slowly become more intense. As parents take their kids out to get candy or even go to haunted houses. Overall Halloween is a special night for fun, fear, and remembrance of Halloween's true origin.

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- Outstanding Percussion
- Outstanding Colorguard
- Grand Champion

The High Plains Marching Festival

- Outstanding Percussion
- Outstanding Colorguard
- Grand Champion



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This Paper Laid Out by: Noah Luscombe and Hailey Larson

Publisher: The Eastern New Mexico News • 521 Pile St
PO Box 1689 Clovis, New Mexico 88102, (575) 763-3431