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Welcome to fall (or should that be autumn??!!)

What's the difference between fall and autumn? Simply stated, 'fall' is American English and 'autumn' is British English. However, they both refer to the same season.

Language Focus One:

Idioms and phrases associated with fall/autumn.

Activity: Match the idiom / phrase with its correct definition

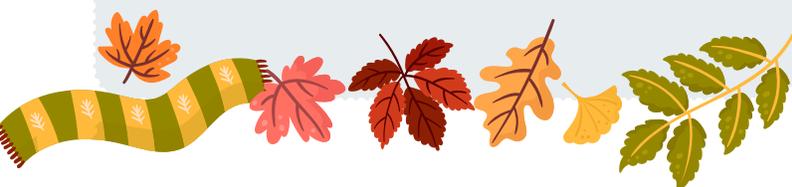
1	the autumn years	a	to experience the results of earlier behavior
2	to reap the harvest	b	to hide something away to be used later when needed
3	an Indian summer	c	the latter years of one's life
4	to squirrel away	d	days become shorter after the autumnal equinox
5	the nights are drawing in	e	an unexpected return to summer weather late in the year

Language Focus Two:

The purposes of writing

A writer usually sets out to achieve one or more of the following purposes:

To inform, to entertain, to explain, to persuade, to express feelings, to explore an idea, to evaluate different perspectives, or to argue for or against an idea. A single text may combine several of these purposes.





Activity: Read the following two texts and identify the intended purpose/s of the writer.

Text One: "Fall:

Bright flame before winter's deadness; harvest; orange, gold, amber; cool nights and the smell of fire. Our tree-lined streets are set ablaze, our kitchens filled with the smells of nostalgia: apples bubbling into sauce, roasting squash, cinnamon, nutmeg, cider, warmth itself. The leaves as they spark into wild color just before they die are the world's oldest performance art, and everything we see is celebrating one last violently hued hurrah before the black and white and silence of winter."

Shauna Niequist (*New York Times* bestselling author of *Cold Tangerines*, *Bittersweet*, *Bread & Wine*, *Savor*, and *Present Over Perfect*.)

Text Two:

The **autumnal equinox** is an astronomical event which heralds the start of autumn/ fall. In the Northern Hemisphere the autumnal equinox in 2022 begins on September 22nd. In the Southern Hemisphere it begins on March 20th. At these times, the sun crosses the "celestial equator" (an imaginary continuation of the Earth's equator into space). When the center of the sun passes through this line the equinox occurs. Following the autumnal equinox, daylight hours reduce and the hours of darkness increase. The full Moon that occurs nearest the autumnal equinox is known as a Harvest Moon.

Activity: Answer these questions. (Refer to the texts and also to your own knowledge and the results of your research):

1. What differences do you notice between the two texts in terms of style, vocabulary, sentence structure, tense?
2. What colors are often associated with fall?
3. What foods are often associated with fall?
4. What is the date of the Harvest Moon in 2022 in the Northern Hemisphere?



Language Focus Three: Phrasal verbs

Activity: Discover the meanings of the phrasal verbs in bold in the text

Maria had **fallen out with** her boyfriend because he had **fallen in with** some unpleasant people. She had **fallen in love** with him several years before and **had fallen over backwards** to understand his often-aggressive behavior. Recently, he had told her he would be away for several days on business and that he would be unable to contact her as there was no internet connection in the hotel where he was staying. She had **fallen for the lie hook line and sinker**.

Activity: Now continue the story using the following phrasal verbs:

- To fall asleep
- To fall over
- To fall apart
- To fall back on
- To fall behind



Follow-up activities:

1. Use the idioms and phrases introduced in Language Focus One in sentences.
2. Find out the meanings of the following idioms associated with fall/autumn and use them in sentences:
 - To go nuts
 - One bad apple
 - To turn over a new leaf
3. Write a short paragraph that expresses your personal feelings about fall/ autumn in your own country.
4. Write a short paragraph that describes a fall/ autumn tradition in your own country.

