The Mystery of the Halloween Haul Hoax

The spooky night of Halloween has finally arrived! Esme has invited all her friends to a fancy dress Halloween party at her house. The friends went out trick or treating, and collected lots of treats! When they got back to Esme’s house, they put their haul of treats in a big bowl to share out later, after eating their tea. But when tea was finished, they discovered... the bowl was empty! Who can have done such a terrifying thing?

As Detective Chief Inspector on the case, it is your job to find out who is responsible for eating the haul of Halloween treats. You have taken down the names and descriptions of the 20 party guests. There are also five important clues to be discovered as the children play their party games.

To crack the case, you will need to solve each clue and check the information with the list of names. Will you be able to solve the mystery of who ate the Halloween haul before the party ends?

Good luck!
## Party Guest Descriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Costume</th>
<th>Prop</th>
<th>Shoe Size</th>
<th>Favourite Treat</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aaisha</td>
<td>wizard</td>
<td>spider</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>sweets</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>ghost</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Esme</td>
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<td>witch</td>
<td>cat</td>
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</table>

The person who ate the treats was ______________.
Clue 1

**Catch the Rotten Apple**

It’s time for a game of apple bobbing! Follow the drips of water to find the correct apple that will tell you the treat eater’s favourite treat! Decide on the correct suffix to complete the sentence.

I can’t believe they’ve eat__ all the sweets!

- **-en**
- **-ed**

Sad ____, there are none left for us.

- **-less**
- **-ly**

They must have done it under the cover of dark___.

- **-ment**
- **-ness**

I feel completely power___ to help.

- **-less**
- **-ly**

What a terrible disappoint____!

- **-ment**
- **-ness**

They must have done it very quick___.

- **-less**
- **-ly**

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The treat eater’s favourite treat is ____________.
Next, the children are carving some pumpkins! Can you put the words on the pumpkins together to form contractions? Rearrange the letters in the orange boxes to spell the costume of the treat eater.

The treat eater’s costume is a ______________.
The children at the party are casting some magic spells to help them find the treat eater. Add the commas into their spells and count the total number of commas you have added to reveal the treat eater’s age.

“Toad worm frog and bat. Turn the treat eater into a rat!”

“Snake flower leaf and toe. Turn the sweet thief into a crow!”

“Hair nail mud and a wish. Turn the culprit into a fish!”

“Lizard beetle cat and newt. Turn this baddie into a boot!”

The total number of commas added is ____.
So the treat eater is ______ years old.
A Halloween card has been discovered at the scene of the crime! It looks like it might be from the treat eater. However, they have made some spelling and punctuation mistakes. Circle the mistakes and write the corrected words in the table below. The mistake that has been made the most will tell you the prop that the treat eater carries.

Dear frends,

Happy Halloween! may your days be creepy and your nights be spooky!

It is mi happiest Halloween yet, because I didnt just get to eat a few treats this year... i got to eat a hwole bowl full!

they were so yummy and delicious, full of lots of tasty shugar. Please dont be cross with me. I just couldnt help myself!

Love from,

The Treat Eater

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling Mistake</th>
<th>Capital Letter Missing</th>
<th>Apostrophe Missing</th>
</tr>
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</table>

The mistake that has been made the most is _______.
So the treat eater carries a ________.
The Mystery of the Halloween Haul Hoax

Clue 5

Five Little Ghosts

The children at the party are singing a song about five little ghosts. But the children have forgotten to change some of the words to plurals. Read the song carefully and add in the missing letter ‘s’ to change the appropriate words. The number of words you change to plurals will reveal the treat eater’s shoe size!

Five little ghost on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So one ghost flew away!

Four little ghost on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So two ghost flew away!

Two little ghost on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So both ghost flew away!

The number of words changed to plurals is ________.
So the treat eater’s shoe size is ________. 
The Mystery of the Halloween Haul Hoax - Answers

Clue 1: Catch the Rotten Apple

I can’t believe they’ve eat___ all the sweets!

Sad ____ , there are none left for us.

They must have done it under the cover of dark____.

I feel completely power____ to help.

What a terrible disappoint____!

They must have done it very quick____.

The treat eater’s favourite treat is sweeets.
Clue 2: Carving Contractions

we + will = w e’ l l

could + not = c o u l d n’ t

can + not = c a n’ t

did + not = d i d n’ t

she + had = s h e’ d

The treat eater’s costume is a witch.
Clue 3: Comma Cauldrons

“Toad, worm, frog and bat. Turn the treat eater into a rat!”

“Snake, flower, leaf and toe. Turn the sweet thief into a crow!”

“Hair, nail, mud and a wish. Turn the culprit into a fish!”

“Lizard, beetle, cat and newt. Turn this baddie into a boot!”

The total number of commas added is 8.
So the treat eater is 8 years old.
Clue 4: Comma Cauldrons

Dear frends,

Happy Halloween! *may* your days be creepy and your nights be spooky!

It is *mi* happiest Halloween yet, because I *didn’t* just get to eat a few treats this year... *i* got to eat a *hwole* bowl full!

*they* were so yummy and delicious, full of lots of tasty *shugar*. Please *dont* be cross with me. I just *couldn’t* help myself!

Love from,

The Treat Eater

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>friends</td>
<td>May</td>
<td><em>didn’t</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>don’t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>whole sugar</td>
<td>They</td>
<td>couldn’t</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mistake that has been made the most is *spelling mistake*. So the treat eater carries a *broom*. 
Clue 5: Five Little Ghosts

Five little ghosts on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So one ghost flew away!

Four little ghosts on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So two ghosts flew away!

Two little ghosts on a witch’s broom,
Flew round the Earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn’t like the sight,
So both ghosts flew away!

The number of words changed to plurals is 5.
So the treat eater’s shoe size is 5.

The person who ate the treats was Esme.