

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# READING

# Mexico's Day of the Dead

## Vocabulary Preview

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

1. pumpkin	<u>E</u>	A. the bones inside a person's head
2. costume	_____	B. to ask for candy during Halloween
3. trick-or-treat (v.)	_____	C. a place where dead people are buried
4. celebrate (v.)	_____	D. being done in the same way for a long time
5. traditional	_____	E. a large, round orange fruit
6. skull	_____	F. the soul or ghost of a dead person
7. cemetery	_____	G. a set of clothes (especially worn at Halloween)
8. spirit	_____	H. to remember a special day with other people

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Use plural forms and past tense if necessary.

1. My grandfather prefers to do things in traditional ways.
2. Last week, I \_\_\_\_\_ my son's birthday. He is three years old.
3. Steven wore a very scary \_\_\_\_\_ to the Halloween party.
4. Your \_\_\_\_\_ protects your brain.
5. Most kids love to \_\_\_\_\_ at Halloween and get lots of candy.
6. Many people like to cut scary faces in Halloween \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Do you believe that we can talk to the \_\_\_\_\_ of dead people?
8. Many \_\_\_\_\_ are located in or near churchyards.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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## READING

Topics: Countries / Halloween

# Mexico's Day of the Dead



Halloween comes every year on October 31, and with it comes candy, [REDACTED]<sup>1</sup>, [REDACTED]<sup>2</sup>, and [REDACTED]<sup>3</sup>. Many people in central and southern Mexico, however, **celebrate**<sup>4</sup> another [REDACTED]<sup>5</sup>, special day just a few days later on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. It's called, the "Day of the Dead." Children make candy [REDACTED]<sup>6</sup> and eat them, and women [REDACTED] 'Day of the Dead' bread. People light candles, prepare flowers, and people visit [REDACTED] at night, to be close to the [REDACTED] of friends and family members who have died. Mexicans [REDACTED] gifts such as food and drinks for the [REDACTED] of the dead, and even toys for dead children. Church bells ring all night, and most people don't [REDACTED] until the morning. For people who live in other countries, all of this may sound a little [REDACTED]. However, the 'Day of the Dead' is a time for [REDACTED] to remember their loved ones by telling stories about them to [REDACTED] and to their children. For many people in Mexico, the 'Day of the Dead' is a way to [REDACTED] life.

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# READING Mexico's Day of the Dead

## How Much Do You Understand?

- According to the article, write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The article is about Halloween in Mexico.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone in Mexico celebrates the Day of the Dead.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Food is an important part of the celebration.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Most people leave the cemeteries in the morning.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The Day of the Dead is a very scary time for most Mexicans.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Kids listen to stories about people who have died.

## Discuss

- *Discuss the following questions with your classmates.*

1. How are Halloween and the Day of the Dead similar / different?
2. Does Mexico's Day of the Dead sound scary to you? Why? / Why not?
3. Do you think it's a good idea to remember people who have died?  
Why? / Why not?

## Write

- Choose one of the above discussion questions. Write a short paragraph to answer it.