

CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo means the 5th of May. The holiday celebrates the Battle of Puebla, which took place in Mexico on May 5, 1862. In this battle, the Mexican army had only 3,000 soldiers and very few weapons. Still they managed to defeat an invading French army of 6,000 soldiers.

Today people celebrate Cinco de Mayo in the town of Puebla, Mexico. In addition, Cinco de Mayo has become an important holiday for people of Mexican heritage living in the United States.

Families in the United States celebrate Cinco de Mayo by attending colorful parades and watching traditionally dressed dancers. They listen to Mariachi music, a form of Mexican folks music. People enjoy many typical Mexican foods on Cinco de Mayo. These include tamales, stuffed peppers and mole poblano which is a spicy chicken dish. People wear red, green and white clothing because these are the colors of the Mexican flag. Many people also celebrate by breaking piñatas filled with candy.



bailarinas



música mariachi



la bandera



guacamole



chiles rellenos



mole poblano

Refer to the reading above to find the correct answer for the questions below.

What does Cinco de Mayo mean?

Independence Day

May 5th

Who did the Mexicans fight?

the French

the Spanish

What year was the battle of Puebla?

1918

1862

In the U.S., who celebrates Cinco de Mayo?

Mexican Americans

Italian Americans

What is Mariachi?

A type of Mexican folk music

A type of dance

What is mole poblano?

A sweet fish dish

A spicy chicken dish

What are the colors of the Mexican flag?

red, green and white

red, white and blue

What is inside a piñata?

nuts and seeds

candy and sweets



bailarinas



la piñata