

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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Topics: Countries / Halloween

Mexico's Day of the Dead



Halloween comes every year on October 31, and with it comes candy, _____¹, _____², and _____³. Many people in central and southern Mexico, however, **celebrate**⁴ another _____⁵, special day just a few days later on _____ and _____. It's called, the "Day of the Dead." Children make candy _____⁶ and eat them, and women _____ 'Day of the Dead' bread. People light candles, prepare flowers, and people visit _____ at night, to be close to the _____ of friends and family members who have died. Mexicans _____ gifts such as food and drinks for the _____ of the dead, and even toys for dead children. Church bells ring all night, and most people don't _____ until the morning. For people who live in other countries, all of this may sound a little _____. However, the 'Day of the Dead' is a time for _____ to remember their loved ones by telling stories about them to _____ and to their children. For many people in Mexico, the 'Day of the Dead' is a way to _____ life.

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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.*
