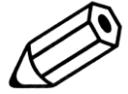


NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Mexico's Day of the Dead

## Vocabulary Practice



- Match the words on the left with the definitions 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. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

# Grammar in the News

## Mexico's Day of the Dead



- **Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.**

Halloween (1)\_\_\_\_\_ soon be here, and with it comes candy, pumpkins, costumes, and trick-or-treating. Many people (2)\_\_\_\_\_ central and southern Mexico, however, celebrate another traditional, special day just a few days later (3)\_\_\_\_\_ November 1 and November 2. It's called, the "Day of the Dead." Children make candy skulls and (4)\_\_\_\_\_ them, and women bake 'Day of the Dead' bread. People light candles, prepare flowers, and people (5)\_\_\_\_\_ cemeteries (6)\_\_\_\_\_ night, to be close to the spirits of friends and family members who have (7)\_\_\_\_\_. Mexicans bring gifts such as food and drinks (8)\_\_\_\_\_ the souls of the dead, and even toys for dead children. Church bells ring all night, and most people (9)\_\_\_\_\_ leave until the morning. For people who live in other countries, all of this may sound a little (10)\_\_\_\_\_. However, the 'Day of the Dead' is a time for Mexicans to remember (11)\_\_\_\_\_ loved ones by telling stories about (12)\_\_\_\_\_ to each other and to their children. For many people in Mexico, the 'Day of the Dead' is a way to celebrate life.

1.

- (A) are  
(B) is  
(C) will

2.

- (A) in  
(B) at  
(C) on

3.

- (A) at  
(B) on  
(C) in

4.

- (A) ate  
(B) eating  
(C) eat

5.

- (A) visits  
(B) visit  
(C) visiting

6.

- (A) in  
(B) at  
(C) on

7.

- (A) dead  
(B) dies  
(C) died

8.

- (A) with  
(B) by  
(C) for

9.

- (A) don't  
(B) aren't  
(C) weren't

10.

- (A) scares  
(B) scary  
(C) scare

11.

- (A) they're  
(B) their  
(C) there

12.

- (A) them  
(B) they  
(C) their

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

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

# 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.*

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**Headline** "Mexico's Day of the Dead"**Grammar Focus** Mixed (includes Present Perfect)**Level** Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate (CEFR A2 to B1)**ANSWER KEY** Page 1**My Notes**● **Vocabulary**

- |      |                        |
|------|------------------------|
| 1. E | 1. traditional         |
| 2. G | 2. celebrated <b>d</b> |
| 3. B | 3. costume             |
| 4. H | 4. skull               |
| 5. D | 5. trick-or-treat      |
| 6. A | 6. pumpkins <b>s</b>   |
| 7. C | 7. spirits <b>s</b>    |
| 8. F | 8. cemeter <b>ies</b>  |

**ANSWER KEY** Page 2**ANSWER KEY** Page 3● **Grammar (Article)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 7. C  |
| 2. A | 8. C  |
| 3. B | 9. A  |
| 4. C | 10. B |
| 5. A | 11. B |
| 6. B | 12. A |

● **How Much Do You Understand?**

1. F (*It is about Mexico's Day of the Dead.*)
2. F (*Many people in central and southern Mexico, not everyone.*)
3. T
4. T
5. F (*People in other countries may think it's scary.*)
6. T

**News Sources:**

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day\\_of\\_the\\_Dead#Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day_of_the_Dead#Europe)
- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donna-henes/day-of-the-dead\\_b\\_8441198.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donna-henes/day-of-the-dead_b_8441198.html)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY9CdisU67Q> (*Day of the Dead Traditions in Mexico*)
- <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/10/28/travel/mexico-city-day-of-the-day-parade/index.html>