

3

A Colorful Celebration



A special day called Cinco de Mayo, which means “Fifth of May” in Spanish is when people come together to celebrate something important. Cinco de Mayo came to be as a result of The Battle of Puebla. Puebla is a place in Mexico and the battle occurred in 1862. The Mexican soldiers fought the French soldiers. The Mexican soldiers won and the French soldiers went back home. Mexico celebrated the victory as they remember their victory.

People in Mexico remember this battle on Cinco de Mayo. They gather in town squares, listen to speeches, and watch colorful parades. Sometimes, they even act out the battle, pretending to be brave soldiers with cool hats and swords. It’s like stepping back in time!

But wait, Cinco de Mayo isn’t only celebrated in Mexico. People in the United States and sometimes in other countries also join the fun! Many of them have families from Mexico, so they celebrate their heritage. They wear bright clothes, dance to lively music, and enjoy delicious Mexican food such as tacos, enchiladas, and churros.

The colors of the Mexican flag—red, white, and green—are everywhere on Cinco de Mayo. In some places, they even have a Chihuahua race! Chihuahuas are tiny dogs that come from Mexico.

The next time you see colorful decorations or hear joyful music on May 5th, you’ll know it’s Cinco de Mayo—a day to celebrate bravery, culture, and lots of fun!

1. Read the passage about “A Colorful Celebration”.
2. Underline each word that you could not read or understand.

A Colorful Celebration

Answer according to the reading passage:

- 1. What does Cinco De Mayo mean in Spanish?**
 - a. 4th of May
 - b. 5th of May
 - c. 3rd of May

- 2. Who won the battle of Puebla?**
 - a. France
 - b. United States
 - c. Mexico

- 3. What are the colors of the Mexican flag?**
 - a. red, white and yellow
 - b. red, white and green
 - c. red and white

- 4. What kind of dogs are associated with Mexico?**
 - a. Chihuahua
 - b. Hounds
 - c. Beagles

- 5. What are some kinds of Mexican food?**
 - a. enchiladas
 - b. tacos
 - c. enchiladas and tacos

A Colorful Celebration

Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why was this an important battle to Mexico?
2. Why do you think this celebration is important?
3. List 5 things about Cinco de Mayo
4. Describe a celebration you would like for Cinco de Mayo.

- Imagine you were a Mexican soldier, how would you feel when you realized your side won?
- Why do you think people in the United States celebrate it too?
- What would have happened if the French won the battle?
- Plan a classroom celebration for Cinco de Mayo.
- Why is it important to remember and celebrate historical events?