



# DAY OF THE DEAD



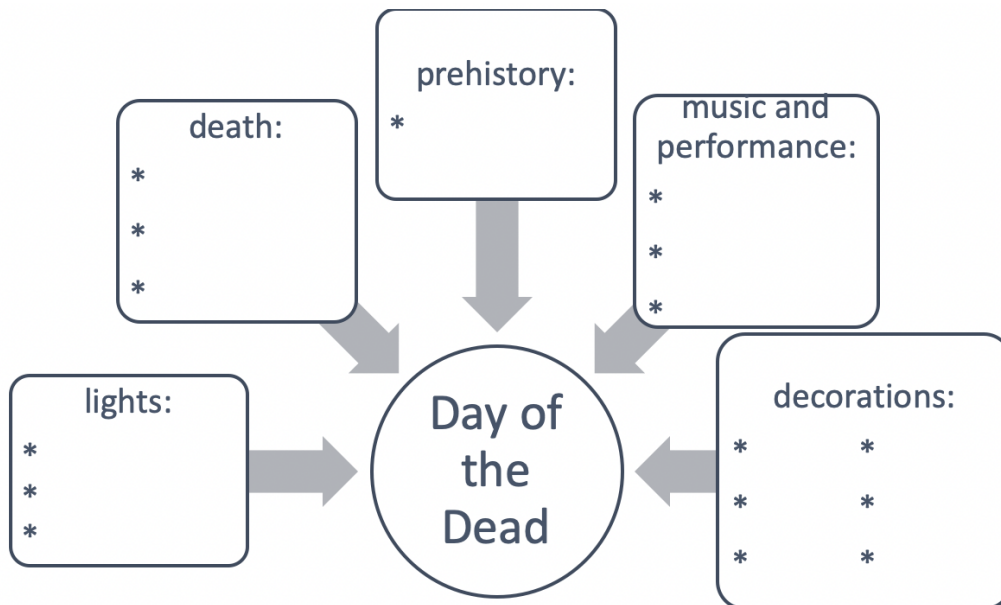
Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:  
1488-H4VA-HCCQ

## 1 Warm up

The Day of the Dead (also called All Saints' Day) is celebrated in many countries on 2 November. The celebrations in Mexico are very famous. What do you know about how they celebrate this festival in Mexico?

These things are all used to celebrate the Day of the Dead in Mexico. Write the words in the correct places on the mind map.



graves in a cemetery  
candles  
lanterns  
silver skeletons

guitars  
crosses  
models of skulls  
skeleton dolls

old sculptures  
fireworks  
paper flags  
skeleton face paint

processions/parades  
flowers  
photographs of relatives  
trumpets



## 2 Watching for the main idea

You are going to watch a short video about the Day of the Dead and you will see all the items on your mind map. Tick each one when you see it. You may see some items more than once! Do you have any similar festivals in your country?

## 3 Watching for detail

First, just read these three parts of the transcript from the video – you can use the glossary to help you understand the words in bold. Some words are missing but the first letters are given. Next, decide if the missing word is a verb, noun or adjective. Imagine/remember which words would complete the text. Finally watch and check your ideas.

PART 1  
(1:01-1:23)

The day of the dead is a festival and in that sense it is very much a c\_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> and I suppose that is something that **appeals to** European and North American people because that's not the way we understand d\_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>.  
Death is for us, a s\_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> moment. We do remember our d\_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> but we remember them in times of **solemnity**.

PART 2  
(2:05-2:39)

It's a **multi-sensory** e\_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>, I think both for the people who make **the altar** and for the dead that v\_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup>.  
People go on journeys with the o\_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> and take them to their **burial** places and they're sort of e\_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> this idea of the **boundary** 'between' the l\_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> and the dead.

PART 3  
(3:54-4:22)

What we're really talking about is what you see in a lot of cultures, which is material culture or images and ideas being t\_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> through time, obviously **evolving** as they come into c\_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> with other cultures, so Mexican culture is very much a mix of the d\_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> **pre-Hispanic Meso-American** cultures that e\_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> before the Spanish **conquest** and all the influence that came from Europe which wasn't just from Spain.

### GLOSSARY

**appeals to**: interests or attracts someone

**solemnity**: serious and sad feelings

**multi-sensory**: using several senses at the same time, eg seeing, hearing, touching, smelling and tasting

**altar**: a small table used in religious ceremonies

**burial**: placing a dead body in a grave in the ground (verb - to bury)

**boundary**: a line that separates two different things or areas

**evolving**: changing over time

**Pre-Hispanic Meso-American**: referring to the peoples who were living in Mexico before the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century, eg the Aztecs

**conquest**: taking control of an area as a result of winning a war (verb - to conquer)



## 4

**Word families**

You need to understand both grammar and meaning to use vocabulary correctly. Complete the word family table. You do not need to write in the boxes with —, but you need to record two nouns in the boxes with a \*.

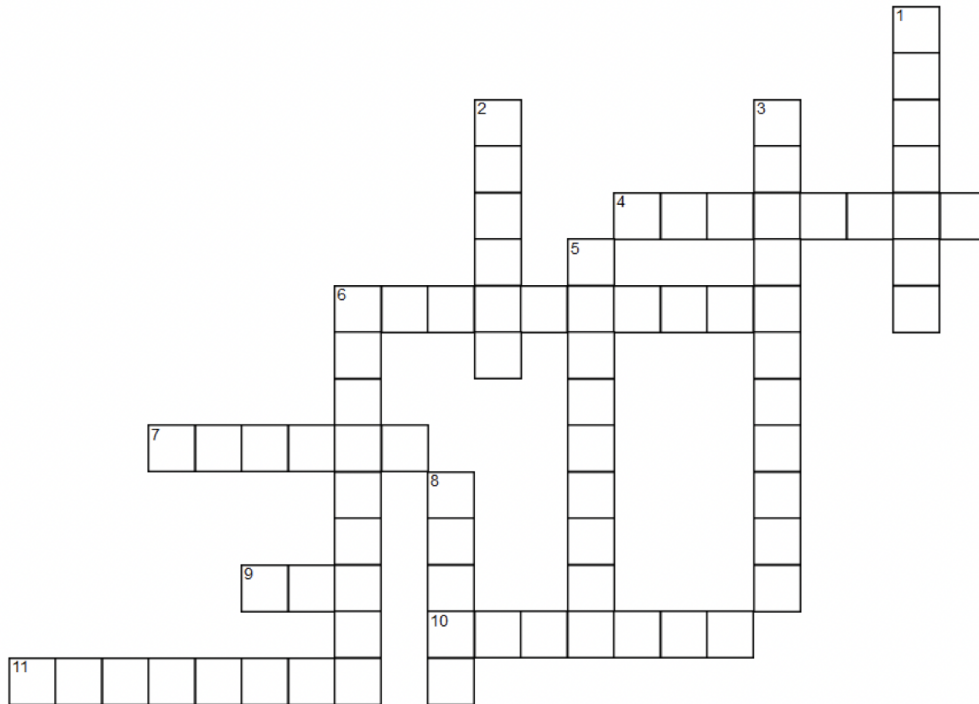
Verb	Noun	Adjective
	celebration	—
	contact	—
	death / the dead (people)	
		different
exist		—
	experience	—
explore	* / *(people)	—
	* / the living (people)	
	offerings	—
remember		—
—		sad
transfer		—
visit	* / (people)	—



## 5

## Practice

Complete the crossword with words from today's lesson.

**Across**

- At the end of the video, one of the speakers said, "\_\_\_\_\_ are really important in a world where it's so easy to forget."
- If you are in Mexico on the Day of the Dead, you will \_\_\_\_\_ some amazing sights and sounds.
- Lots of people paint their faces to look like \_\_\_\_\_ on the Day of the Dead.
- Mexicans remember family members for a long time after they \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Day of the Dead continues some very old cultural traditions that \_\_\_\_\_ before the Spanish arrived in Mexico.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to Mexico will enjoy seeing new things and eating new foods.

**Down**

- No one is happy all the time; there is some \_\_\_\_\_ in everybody's life.
- Mexicans go to the cemetery and decorate the \_\_\_\_\_ of family members on 2 November.
- In many parts of the world, people walk down the streets in big \_\_\_\_\_ to celebrate important holidays.
- People set off \_\_\_\_\_ at night during celebrations like the Day of the Dead and New Year's Eve.
- In the 16th century, many European \_\_\_\_\_ travelled to North and South America.
- Mexican families \_\_\_\_\_ flowers and food to the dead on 2 November.