

Name:

Day One

Leticia Celebrates the Day of the Dead

Part 1: Silent read

→ Leticia's favorite holiday celebrates the dead. Read silently.

Every year Leticia helps her parents set up their *ofrenda* or altar. They lay a bright orange cloth over a table. Leticia sets out some marigold flowers and candles. Her parents place water and a special kind of bread on the table. Leticia adds the decorated sugar skulls they bought. Finally, they set up pictures of family members they have lost.

This year, Leticia adds some small chocolates to the altar. Leticia said her grandmother looked forward to her favorite chocolates each day. Now, Leticia's family is ready to celebrate the Day of the Dead together. Leticia is excited about this holiday. She especially wants to remember and celebrate her grandmother. Leticia hopes her grandmother's spirit will be nearby.

The Day of the Dead is a holiday often celebrated by Mexican families. It is also celebrated in many places in the U.S. and South America. It is usually celebrated on two days each year. November 1st is for children who have died. November 2nd is for adults who have died.

Day of the Dead traditions are different depending on where you live. Some people set up altars in their homes. Other people visit the graveyard and decorate their family's tombstones. Some towns hold outdoor parties, too. Everyone gathers for dancing in bright outfits. The Day of the Dead is not a sad day. It is an upbeat day to connect with people you have lost. It is a day to celebrate their lives.



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// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What are some different ways that people celebrate the Day of the Dead?

What items do Leticia and her parents put out on their altar?

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Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Every year / Leticia helps her parents / set up their *ofrenda* or altar. // They lay a bright orange cloth / over a table. // Leticia sets out some marigold flowers / and candles. // Her parents place water / and a special kind of bread / on the table. // Leticia adds the decorated sugar skulls they bought. // Finally, / they set up pictures / of family members they have lost. //

This year, / Leticia adds some small chocolates to the altar. // Leticia said / her grandmother looked forward to her favorite chocolates / each day. // Now, / Leticia's family is ready to celebrate the Day of the Dead together. // Leticia is excited about this holiday. // She especially wants / to remember and celebrate her grandmother. // Leticia hopes / her grandmother's spirit will be nearby. //

The Day of the Dead is a holiday / often celebrated by Mexican families. // It is also celebrated / in many places in the U.S. and South America. // It is usually celebrated on two days each year. // November 1st is for children who have died. // November 2nd is for adults who have died. //

Day of the Dead traditions are different / depending on where you live. // Some people set up altars in their homes. // Other people visit the graveyard / and decorate their family's tombstones. // Some towns hold outdoor parties, / too. // Everyone gathers for dancing / in bright outfits. // The Day of the Dead is not a sad day. // It is an upbeat day / to connect with people you have lost. // It is a day to celebrate their lives. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.