

Name:

Day One

Day of the Dead Rising Up!

Part 1: Silent read

→ The Day of the Dead is a celebration of people who are gone. Read silently.

A huge skull topped with bright flowers leads the way. Dancers in colorful costumes follow close behind. A band plays upbeat music to the cheers of the crowd. Many bystanders wear costumes of their own with masks or elaborate face paint. It is the Day of the Dead in Mexico City. It feels like everyone has gathered to see the parade!

Mexico City's Day of the Dead parade is a new tradition. Alejandro Osorno, a teacher who dressed up for the parade, said, "Day of the Dead is changing. It's more visible." For many years, families have celebrated the holiday privately. Now, large events, parades, and costumes are becoming more common.

The Day of the Dead is actually a celebration of life. Traditionally, people set up altars in their homes or on the graves of their family members. These altars usually include bright flowers, skulls made of sugar, and photos of the dead. Sometimes, people add their lost family members' favorite foods or a toy. This holiday allows people to connect with people they have lost.

Some people worried American Halloween would become more popular in Mexico. They feared it would overshadow the Day of the Dead. But the Day of the Dead has actually become more popular than ever! Mexico has made it a national holiday. Many U.S. cities have even joined in celebrating the Day of the Dead.

Source: "Mexicans Embrace Day of the Dead Spectacle in Place of Halloween," *The Guardian*, October 31, 2017.



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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

How has the Day of the Dead changed in recent years?

What holiday did some people worry would replace the Day of the Dead?

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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.

A huge skull topped with bright flowers / leads the way. // Dancers in colorful costumes / follow close behind. // A band plays upbeat music / to the cheers of the crowd. // Many bystanders wear costumes of their own / with masks or elaborate face paint. // It is the Day of the Dead in Mexico City. // It feels like everyone has gathered / to see the parade! //

Mexico City's Day of the Dead parade / is a new tradition. // Alejandro Osorno, / a teacher who dressed up for the parade, / said, / "Day of the Dead is changing. // It's more visible." // For many years, / families have celebrated the holiday privately. // Now, / large events, / parades, / and costumes / are becoming more common. //

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