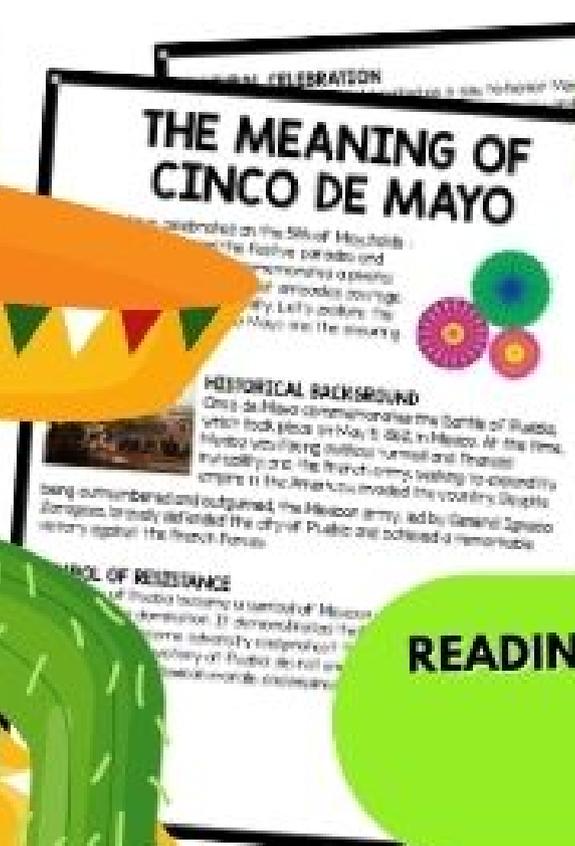


# MEANING OF Cinco de Mayo

## READING COMPREHENSION

**NO-PREP &  
EDITABLE**



**READING COMPREHENSION  
MCQ'S  
QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEY**

## READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

# THE MEANING OF CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo, celebrated on the 5th of May, holds a deeper meaning beyond the festive parades and colorful celebrations. It commemorates a pivotal moment in Mexican history that embodies courage, resilience, and the spirit of unity. Let's explore the true significance of Cinco de Mayo and the enduring lessons it teaches us.



### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla, which took place on May 5, 1862, in Mexico. At the time, Mexico was facing political turmoil and financial instability, and the French army, seeking to expand its empire in the Americas, invaded the country. Despite

being outnumbered and outgunned, the Mexican army, led by General Ignacio Zaragoza, bravely defended the city of Puebla and achieved a remarkable victory against the French forces.

### SYMBOL OF RESISTANCE

The Battle of Puebla became a symbol of Mexican resistance and defiance against foreign domination. It demonstrated that a determined and united people could overcome adversity and protect their homeland against external threats. While the victory at Puebla did not end the French occupation of Mexico, it boosted Mexican morale and inspired a sense of national pride and solidarity.

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### CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Today, Cinco de Mayo is celebrated as a day to honor Mexican culture, heritage, and identity. It serves as a reminder of the bravery and sacrifices of those who fought in the Battle of Puebla and defended Mexico's independence. Through parades, music, dance, and traditional cuisine, communities come together to celebrate their shared history and values, reinforcing their cultural pride and unity.

### CROSS-CULTURAL CONNECTION

Cinco de Mayo has also evolved into a celebration of diversity and inclusion, transcending borders and uniting people of all backgrounds. In the United States, Cinco de Mayo is embraced as an opportunity to celebrate Mexican American heritage and to foster cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. It serves as a reminder of the contributions and experiences of Mexican Americans to the rich tapestry of American society.



### LESSONS LEARNED

At its core, Cinco de Mayo teaches us valuable lessons about courage, resilience, and the power of unity. It reminds us that in the face of adversity, we must stand together with determination and solidarity to overcome challenges and defend our principles. Cinco de Mayo is a testament to the enduring spirit of the Mexican people and their unwavering commitment to freedom, justice, and independence.

### CONCLUSION

As we celebrate Cinco de Mayo, let us reflect on its true meaning and the lessons it imparts. May it inspire us to embrace courage, unity, and cultural pride, and to stand in solidarity with one another in the face of adversity. Through the celebration of Cinco de Mayo, we honor the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a future built on the values of courage, resilience, and unity.

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# THE TRUE MEANING OF CINCO DE MAYO

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What event does Cinco de Mayo commemorate?  
A) Mexico's Independence Day  
B) The Battle of Puebla  
C) The French Revolution  
D) The Mexican-American War
2. Who led the Mexican army to victory at the Battle of Puebla?  
A) General Santa Anna  
B) General Ignacio Zaragoza  
C) General Porfirio Diaz  
D) General Benito Juarez
3. What does the Battle of Puebla symbolize for Mexico?  
A) Defeat and surrender  
B) Resistance and defiance against foreign domination  
C) Acceptance of foreign occupation  
D) Political compromise
4. How is Cinco de Mayo celebrated today?  
A) Solemn memorials and ceremonies  
B) Through parades, music, dance, and traditional culture  
C) With military demonstrations  
D) By ignoring historical events
5. What role does Cinco de Mayo play in the United States?  
A) It is not celebrated in the United States.  
B) It is only celebrated by Mexican Americans.  
C) It is embraced as an opportunity to celebrate Mexican American heritage and foster cross-cultural understanding.  
D) It is seen as a divisive holiday.

## SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What does Cinco de Mayo commemorate?
2. Who led the Mexican army to victory at the Battle of Puebla?
3. How is Cinco de Mayo celebrated today?
4. What lessons does Cinco de Mayo teach?
5. What is the significance of the Battle of Puebla?

6. What lessons does Cinco de Mayo teach?  
A) Lessons about cultural diversity  
B) Lessons about unity and solidarity  
C) Lessons about courage, resilience, and perseverance  
D) Lessons about defeat and surrender

7. What is the significance of the Battle of Puebla?  
A) It ended the French occupation of Mexico  
B) It boosted Mexican morale and inspired national identity  
C) It marked the beginning of the Mexican Revolution  
D) It led to political compromise and independence

8. How does Cinco de Mayo celebrate Mexican heritage?  
A) By ignoring cultural traditions  
B) By promoting assimilation  
C) Through parades, music, dance, and traditional cuisine  
D) By showcasing Mexican pride and national identity

9. How does the passage describe the spirit of the Mexican people?  
A) As a peaceful negotiator  
B) As an act of aggression seeking to expand territory  
C) As a resilient and determined force  
D) As a humanitarian mission

10. What does the passage suggest about the role of Cinco de Mayo in the United States?  
A) They are proud and defiantly celebrating their victory.  
B) They are resistant and committed to their independence.  
C) They are celebrating their history of surrendering to foreign forces.  
D) They are embracing the true price and unity.

## ANSWER KEY

MCQ'S

1. B) The Battle of Puebla
2. B) General Ignacio Zaragoza
3. B) Through parades, music, dance, and traditional culture
4. B) It is embraced as an opportunity to celebrate Mexican American heritage and foster cross-cultural understanding.
5. C) Lessons about courage, resilience, and perseverance
6. C) It boosted Mexican morale and inspired national identity.
7. B) It marked the beginning of the Mexican Revolution.
8. C) Through parades, music, dance, and traditional cuisine
9. C) As an act of aggression seeking to expand its empire
10. B) They are resilient and committed to their independence.

## SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla.
2. General Ignacio Zaragoza led the Mexican army to victory at the Battle of Puebla.
3. Cinco de Mayo is celebrated with parades, music, dance, and traditional culture.
4. Cinco de Mayo teaches lessons about courage, resilience, and the power of unity.
5. The Battle of Puebla boosted Mexican morale and inspired national pride and solidarity.

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

10 - MCQ'S & 5 QUESTIONS

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**EDITABLE**

**\* FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

