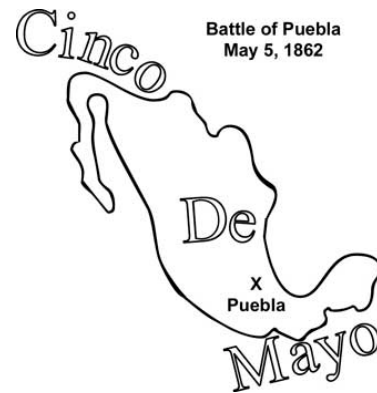


Cinco de Mayo

A. Reading

Cinco de Mayo means *May 5th*. It is a regional holiday in the city of Puebla, which is in southeastern Mexico. On May 5, 1862, General Ignacio Zaragoza's army defeated French forces near Puebla. The Mexican victory was a surprise because the Mexican army had less soldiers and less equipment than the French army. Although the Battle of Puebla did not prevent the French occupation of Mexico, it was a moral victory for the Mexican Army and the country. Cinco de Mayo is also celebrated in the United States. American restaurants and bars play Mexican music and serve Mexican food and drinks. On May 5th, students in the United States learn about the culture and history of Mexico.



B. Facts About Mexico

1. Mexico's official name is the United Mexican States or *Estados Unidos Mexicanos*.
2. About 108,000,000 (one-hundred and eight million) people live in Mexico.
3. Mexico is in North America. It is south of the United States.
4. Mexican presidents are elected for a single six-year term.
5. The capital of Mexico is Mexico City.
6. Most people in Mexico speak Spanish.
7. Mexico has the 12th largest economy in the world.

C. True or False

1. _____ Mexico is in South America.
2. _____ The Battle of Puebla was fought in southeastern Mexico.
3. _____ The French army had more soldiers than the Mexican army.
4. _____ The Battle of Puebla prevented the French occupation of Mexico.
5. _____ Most people in Mexico speak Spanish.

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