

# Day of the Dead Quest Sheets

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Clase SP3H Periodo 6

## Day of the Dead Quest Sheet

Octavio Paz writes the Mexican has no problems with death that he "... chases after it, mocks it, courts it, hugs it, sleeps with it, it is his favorite plaything and his most lasting love." In your opinion, how is this idea similar to or different from our "United States" view on death?

Most people are afraid of dying because they love life so much. People in the US don't typically chase after death.

When is All Saints Day and All Souls Day celebrated?

All Saints Day is celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup> and All Souls Day is on November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Even though each region in Mexico celebrates Day of the Dead differently, what are things that they do have in common?

All Mexicans celebrate and commemorate their deceased relatives and friends. People build altars for people that incorporate marigolds, sugar skulls, artwork, favorite foods, and items.

November 1 is reserved to remember infants and children.

November 2 is reserved to remember adults and the elderly.

From mid-October to the first week in November, what are some of the items markets and shops stock up on?

Sugar skulls and Marigolds and Candles and Incense

List 5 edible goodies enjoyed on Day of the Dead.

Sugar skulls, sugar coffins, chocolate, amaranth seeds, pan de muerto

What are some things that are used to create an altar?

Candles, Incense, masks, and skulls

What occurs on November 2?

Those who have died as adults are honored on November 2. On November 2 family members gather at the cemetery for gravesite reunions that are festive. Some bring picnic baskets, bottles of tequila for toasting the , or even a mariachi band to lead a heartfelt sing-along. Local merchants set up provisional stands outside the cemetery gates to sell food and drinks.

How do Aztecs view death?

For the Aztecs, it was considered a blessing to die in childbirth, battle, or human sacrifice. These assured the victim a desirable destination in the afterlife.

In Mixquic, what takes place to celebrate Day of the Dead?

Mixquic is a district of Mexico City. Merchants set up street stands for the Day of the Dead. In the cemetery, all gravesites are elaborately decorated with a variety of earthly delights in the hope of luring departed spirits. At 2 p.m. November 1, relatives gather at each tomb to mourn the loss of loved ones with *la llorada* — the weeping. Later, the glow of thousands of candles shines the way for the departed. At Midnight they are called home with the mournful tolling of bells. Then each soul is lovingly remembered with recitations of the Rosary.