

Name:

Date:

CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo commemorates Mexico's unexpected victory over French troops at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. Although the French army was larger and better equipped, Mexican forces, led by General Ignacio Zaragoza, successfully defended the city.

Over time, the holiday evolved into a celebration of Mexican culture, especially in the United States. It highlights traditions such as mariachi music, folkloric dance, and traditional cuisine.

While it is a relatively minor holiday in Mexico, it has gained international recognition as a celebration of Mexican heritage and pride.

Comprehension Questions

Why was the victory unexpected?

Who led the Mexican army?

How has the holiday changed over time?

Why is it more popular in the U.S.?

What challenges did the Mexican army face?

Why was the French army expected to win?

Who was General Ignacio Zaragoza?

How is Cinco de Mayo celebrated today?

What cultural elements are highlighted during the celebration?

Why has Cinco de Mayo become internationally recognized?
