

Vocabulary: Comparing Cultural Holidays

GENERAL TERMS

ancestor: one from whom a person is descended

celebrate: to perform publicly and with appropriate rites; to honor or observe with solemn rites or ceremonies by refraining from business-related activities; to keep as a holiday; to perform a religious ceremony

custom: a long-established practice common to a person or culture

holiday: a religious feast day; any day of exemption of labor, often a period of rest and recreation, thus a vacation; a day fixed by law for the suspension of business tradition: a belief, attitude, or teachings that are handed down from the past

DAY OF THE DEAD TERMS

alfenique: a special candy made into the shapes of skulls and fruits and flowers

angelitos: the souls of the young who have died, literally "little angels"

atole: a drink made from cornmeal, water, and fruits

calvera: a skull, also a name for "daredevil"

calaveras: songs and poems about the day of the dead

careta: a face mask

cempazuchitl: a yellow marigold, the symbol of death

mole: a thick sauce made from a variety of ingredients including spices, chocolate, sesame seeds, chilis, and fruit

ofrenda: an offering, such as food and flowers put on altars

pan de los muertos: a type of sweet bread baked in the weeks leading up to Día de Muertos, literal meaning "bread of the dead"

Word Wall

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