



Cinco de Mayo Trivia

1. In what country is Cinco de Mayo most widely celebrated?
 - a. Mexico
 - b. United States of America
 - c. Spain
 - d. France
2. What other holiday is Cinco de Mayo most frequently confused with?
 - a. Mardi Gras
 - b. Day of the Dead
 - c. 4th of July
 - d. Mexican Independence Day
3. On May 5, 1862 a Mexican militia unexpectedly defeated the French in what battle?
 - a. Battle of Puebla
 - b. Battle of the Alamo
 - c. Battle of Palo Alto
 - d. Battle of Buena Vista
4. What French leader sent troops to Mexico in an effort to assert territorial control?
 - a. King Louis XVIII
 - b. King Charles X
 - c. Duke of Reichstadt
 - d. Emperor Napoleon III
5. During what decades did Cinco de Mayo celebrations become popular in the U.S.?
 - a. 1920-1930
 - b. 1950-1960
 - c. 1980-1990
 - d. 2000-2010
6. How many men made up the Mexican militia that defeated the French in the battle on May 5, 1862?
 - a. 500
 - b. 1500
 - c. 2000
 - d. 6000
7. Who was the President of Mexico in 1862?
 - a. Vicente Fox
 - b. Luis Echeverría Álvarez
 - c. Pedro Lascuráin
 - d. Benito Juárez

8. What is the most popular food eaten on Cinco de Mayo in Mexico?
 - a. Tacos
 - b. Taquitos
 - c. Tamales
 - d. Mole Poblano
9. Where does the world's largest Cinco de Mayo celebration take place?
 - a. Los Angeles, California
 - b. Puebla, Mexico
 - c. Santa Fe, New Mexico
 - d. Mexico City, Mexico
10. What was the significance of the Mexican militia's victory over the French in the battle that marked Cinco de Mayo?
 - a. The end of the Franco-Mexican War
 - b. A moral victory for the underdog
 - c. The start of the Mexican Revolution
 - d. An example of how to control a territory
11. When is Mexican Independence Day celebrated?
 - a. May 5
 - b. November 2
 - c. February 6
 - d. September 16
12. What activities mark Cinco de Mayo celebrations in Mexico?
 - a. Military parades and battle reenactments
 - b. Pinatas and fireworks
 - c. Tequila drinking competitions
 - d. Taco buffets
13. During what decade did Cinco de Mayo become a 'drinking holiday' in the U.S.?
 - a. 1990's
 - b. 1980's
 - c. 1970's
 - d. 1960's
14. Who was the leader of the Mexican militia in the battle that marked Cinco de Mayo?
 - a. General Victoriano Huerta
 - b. General Porfirio Diaz
 - c. Pancho Villa
 - d. General Ignacio Zaragoza

15. What is the name of the town where the infamous Cinco de Mayo battle took place?
 - a. Puebla de Los Ángeles
 - b. Tijuana
 - c. Mexico City
 - d. Chihuahua
16. How many pounds of avocados do Americans consume on Cinco de Mayo?
 - a. 80, 000
 - b. 800,000
 - c. 81 million
 - d. 8 billion
17. What American War was happening at the same time as the Franco-Mexican war?
 - a. Revolutionary War
 - b. Spanish-American War
 - c. Civil War
 - d. World War I
18. What is the original reason the French intervened in Mexico during this time?
 - a. To collect unpaid debts
 - b. To take over the country under French rule
 - c. As retaliation for Mexican anti-European policies
 - d. To obtain land for farming
19. What was the U.S. stance on the French intervention in Mexico?
 - a. Unanimously sided with France
 - b. Unanimously sided with Mexico
 - c. Divided loyalties between both sides
 - d. Remained neutral
20. The battle that inspired Cinco de Mayo lasted how long?
 - a. 2 days
 - b. 1 month
 - c. 1 week
 - d. 4 hours

Cinco de Mayo Trivia Answers

1. B. Cinco de Mayo is largely only celebrated in Puebla, Mexico -not across the country.
2. D. Mexican Independence day is celebrated on September 16.
3. A. The Battle of Puebla was a short, small battle that did not signal winning the war.
4. D. Emperor Napoleon III sought to add Mexico to countries controlled by the French.
5. B. Cinco de Mayo celebrations began in the U.S. because of its Good Neighbor Policy.
6. C. 2,000 loyal Mexicans were quickly assembled to defend Puebla de Los Angeles.
7. D. Benito Juárez was a liberal who became President in 1861.
8. D. Mole Poblano is a dark sauce made up of ground ingredients.
9. A. In 2016 the celebration in Los Angeles, CA saw over 300,000 people.
10. B. While Mexico did not win the war, this small victory gave hope to people across the world fighting against larger, stronger enemies.
11. D. Independence day is celebrated on September 16 to commemorate a declaration of war against Spain in 1810.
12. A. Residents of Puebla celebrate the infamous battle with reenactments and military parades.
13. B. In the 1980's U.S. corporations saw Cinco de Mayo as an opportunity to tap into the rising Latino population.
14. D. General Ignacio Zaragoza led the ill-equipped Mexicans into victory.
15. A. Puebla de Los Ángeles was later renamed for General Zaragoza.
16. C. The California Avocado Commission estimates 81 million pounds are eaten.
17. C. The U.S. Civil War took place from 1861-1865.
18. A. Spanish, French, and British governments originally planned to collect debts together, but the other countries withdrew upon seeing Napoleon's intentions.
19. D. In an effort to retain resources for their own war and not anger any other country, the U.S. tried to remain neutral.
20. D. The Battle of Puebla only lasted approximately 4 hours.

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