

Name(s) _____

Period _____ Title _____

Día de los Muertos - Altar y Ofrendas

DIRECTIONS:

- 1) **Choose whose life your altar will represent.** You may choose to write about A) a relative or loved one who has passed away, B) a living person who you care about and know well (whom we will pretend is dead for purposes of the project), C) yourself (as though you are deceased) written in 3rd person from the perspective of a loved one, D) a character you know well, from fiction, history, or the modern world (whom we will imagine has passed away if they are currently living). Regardless of who you choose, they should be treated with respect and caring.
- 2) **Write about the items placed on their altar, and what they represent.** These should include traditional elements of Día de los Muertos, as well as items of personal significance to the deceased. You will need to explain the symbolism of each item, using Spanish. *The descriptions do not have to be extremely detailed*, just enough to show you understand the spirit of the holiday, the meaning of the traditional items, and your affection for the deceased person.
- 3) **Using past tense, relate one or more anecdotes or stories that show what the person was like in life.** You will be graded in part on your use of past tense, so make sure you check spelling, conjugation, and whether to use preterite or imperfect. Highlight the preterite in one color, the imperfect in another.
- 4) **Illustrate the altar and ofrendas.** You may draw it yourself, have someone else assist, use cutouts of photos or illustrations, design it in software, etc. The method isn't terribly important, but it needs to look like a proper Día de los Muertos altar as discussed in class, and include everything described in the written portion. Use standard size 8½" x 11" paper (printer paper, colored paper, etc).

You will be given time in class to draft your ideas and written portion (Wed., Nov. 1), work with others to peer edit your written portion (Thurs., Nov. 2), and make a final version of both the written portion and image (Fri., Nov. 3). The mini-project will be due Monday November 6th. Your final project must be presentation-worthy (no ripped edges, illegible writing, inappropriate art, etc.). The final written portion must be on a single side of a page, and the illustration of the altar must be on a second page, stapled to the written portion. Be sure to put your name on both pages.

Criteria for evaluation

CATEGORY	Points	Totals	Notes
Name , date, heading, title, etc. <i>(Multiplier x0.5)</i>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/5	
Demonstrates overall understanding of Spanish grammar and spelling	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/10	
Demonstrates understanding of imperfect conjugation	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/10	
Demonstrates understanding of preterite conjugation	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/10	
Demonstrates understanding of irregular preterite conjugation	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/10	
Demonstrates understanding of the cultural perspectives and symbols of Día de los Muertos <i>(Multiplier x2)</i>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/20	
Creativity, time, and/or effort to produce a high quality project	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 <u>7</u> 8 <u>9</u> 10	/10	
Notes/Comments		Total score	
			/65