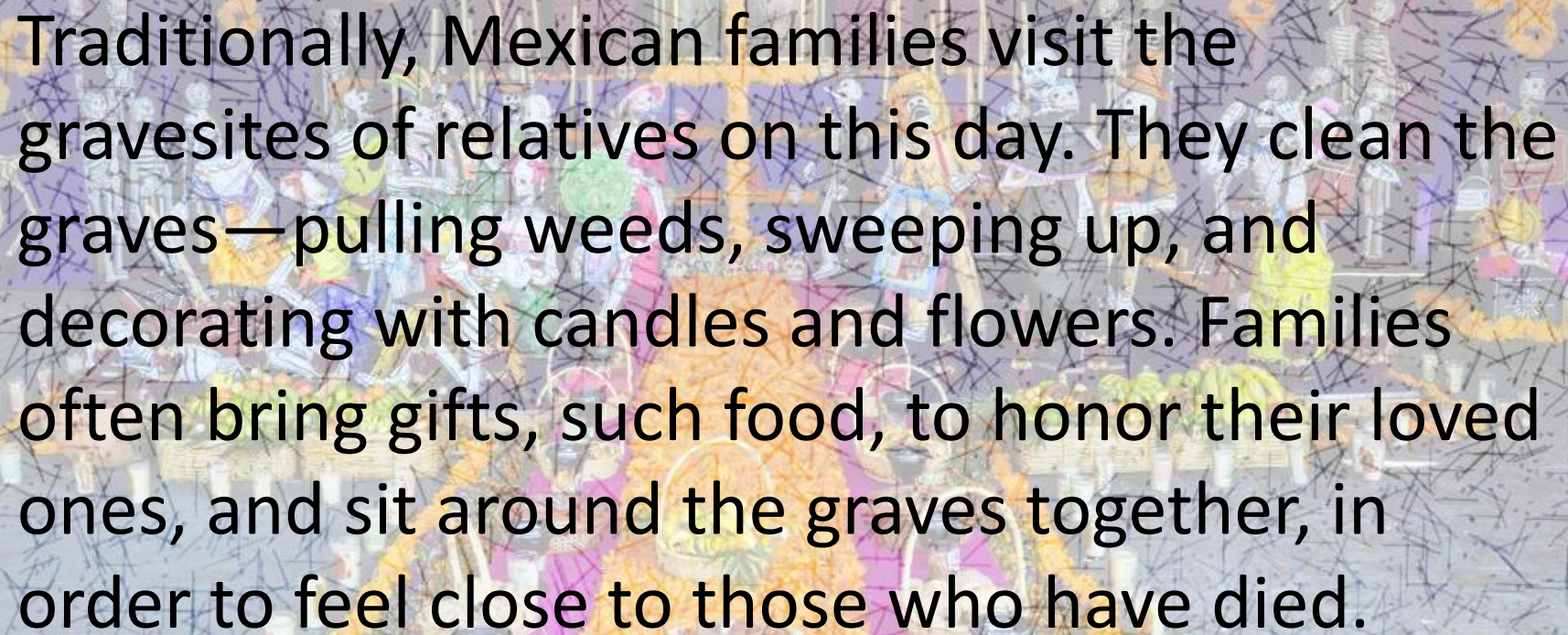


Dia de los Muertos



Dia de los Muertos, or “Day of the Dead,” is a Mexican holiday celebrated in early November where families remember their loved ones who have passed away. The holiday is not a sad one, but rather a lively festival to celebrate those who have died.





Traditionally, Mexican families visit the gravesites of relatives on this day. They clean the graves—pulling weeds, sweeping up, and decorating with candles and flowers. Families often bring gifts, such food, to honor their loved ones, and sit around the graves together, in order to feel close to those who have died.

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= sSawpU81cl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSawpU81cl)

The art of Dia de los Muertos is bright and colourful, much like the festival itself. Vibrant tissue paper, bright flowers, and colorful fabrics decorate homemade altars that families make for the holiday.



What does colour tell us about this holiday?

Even though Dia de los Muertos is a holiday about the dead, bright colours let us know that it is a happy celebration. Vibrantly coloured blue, pink, and green tissue paper is festive and seems to create energy. Families bring bouquets of fiery orange and yellow flowers, called marigolds, to the graves of their loved ones. People are attracted to bright colours, and so they make us want to look at the decorations.



How do shape and line on the sugar skulls make them seem alive?

Blossoming flowers and curling shapes create movement across the surface of the skulls.

These bright, intricate decorations almost make it seem like there is life within the skulls. Skulls represent death, but their lively designs remind us that this is not a time to be sad, but to celebrate instead.



Do the skulls look realistic?

We know that real skulls are plain, and not decorated with beautiful designs. The brightly coloured sugar skulls are not meant to be realistic, but to symbolize death in a cheerful way. The **abstract** designs are eye-catching and fun to admire.

