

Altar Project

Due: Wednesday, November 1st

Background Information:

Day of the Dead, also called "Día de los Muertos," is a holiday celebrated in Mexico and in other areas in Central and South America populated with the Latino ethnic background. The Day of the Dead is also celebrated in areas of the United States, such as California, Texas, and many others, in which the Mexican/American heritage exists. The official date for Day of the Dead is November 2. This is a time when family members who have died are remembered. In Mexico, this festival is considered to be the most important holiday of the year.

Project Guidelines:

1. Using your shoebox, create an altar in remembrance of a family member, pet, or close family friend. Include at least **three** items that were meaningful and that brought joy and comfort to a family member or pet during his or her lifetime. The altar should be created with effort and care. Be creative! A rubric is provided.
2. Write a reflective essay honoring the deceased family member, pet, or close family friend. Include the following components in your essay:
 - Introduction (Who is being honored in your altar? What is your relation to him or her?)
 - About Section (Name, birthday, age, personality traits, physical features, nationality, interests)
 - Conclusion (Why did you select this person or animal?)
3. **Your reflective essay must be written in Spanish and have a minimum of seven sentences. Translation devices are prohibited.**

In Class Project Timeline:

Thursday, 10/26:

- Select a family member, pet, or close friend
- Brainstorm three items to place in the altar
- Begin to write the Introduction

Friday, 10/27

- Finalize three items to place in the altar
- Complete the Introduction
- Begin the About Section

Monday, 10/30

- Complete the About Section
- Begin to write the Conclusion
- Decorate your altar

Tuesday, 10/31

- Complete the Conclusion
- Peer edit your reflective essay with a partner
- Decorate your altar
- Stop by during Excel for 1:1 writing support (optional)

Wednesday, 11/1

- Decorate your altar
- Altar and essay are due at the end of class*****