

Name _____

Cultural Costumes Answer Key

1. They were meant to scare away spirits or protect people from wandering ghosts.
2. Mexican costumes focus on honoring the dead with colorful, artistic designs rather than scaring people.
3. They emphasize creativity, artistry, and fun rather than fear.
4. Ireland's reflect protection and tradition, Mexico's reflect remembrance and joy, and Japan's reflect imagination and artistry.
5. (Answers will vary, based on student reflection.)

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Develops **comparative analysis** and **cultural literacy** through reading comprehension and critical thinking about global traditions.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Provide key vocabulary previews (e.g., *Samhain*, *calavera*, *artistry*) for emerging readers.
 - Have advanced students research another country's costume traditions for independent comparison.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Encourage students to design or draw their own culturally inspired costume and label its symbolic elements.
 - Host a "Cultural Costume Gallery" where students display their ideas alongside a short paragraph of explanation.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Lead a class discussion on how holidays evolve when shared across cultures.
 - Integrate a brief writing task: "Explain how costumes can express both individuality and cultural identity."