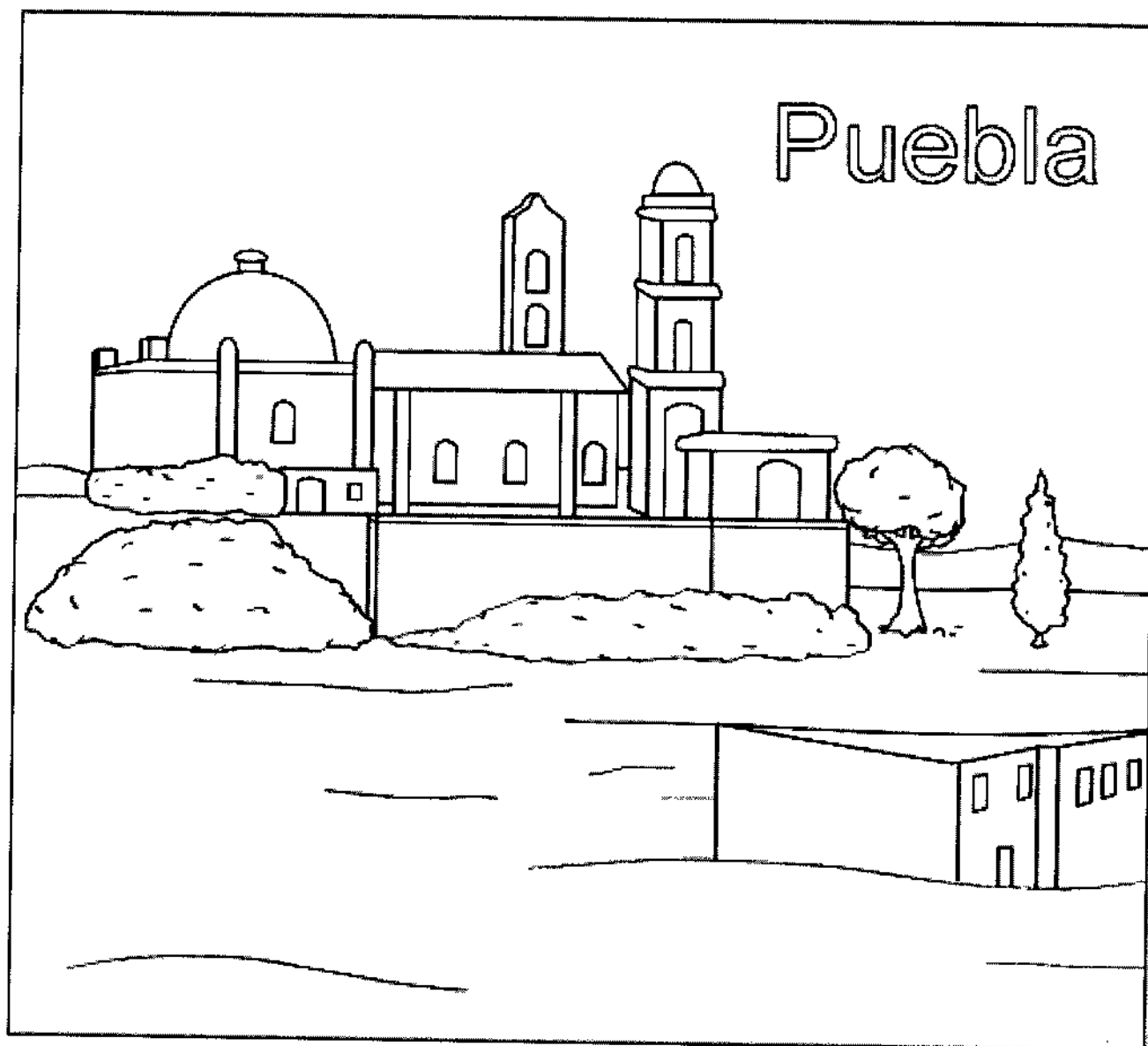


# Cinco de Mayo





The mariachi bands are playing pretty music in  
the street.  
Someone's selling deep fried churros that are hot,  
and oh, so sweet!  
It is Cinco de Mayo, that's Spanish for the fifth  
of May.  
It's a Latino celebration of a very special day.



In the town of Puebla, Mexico, a famous battle  
once took place.

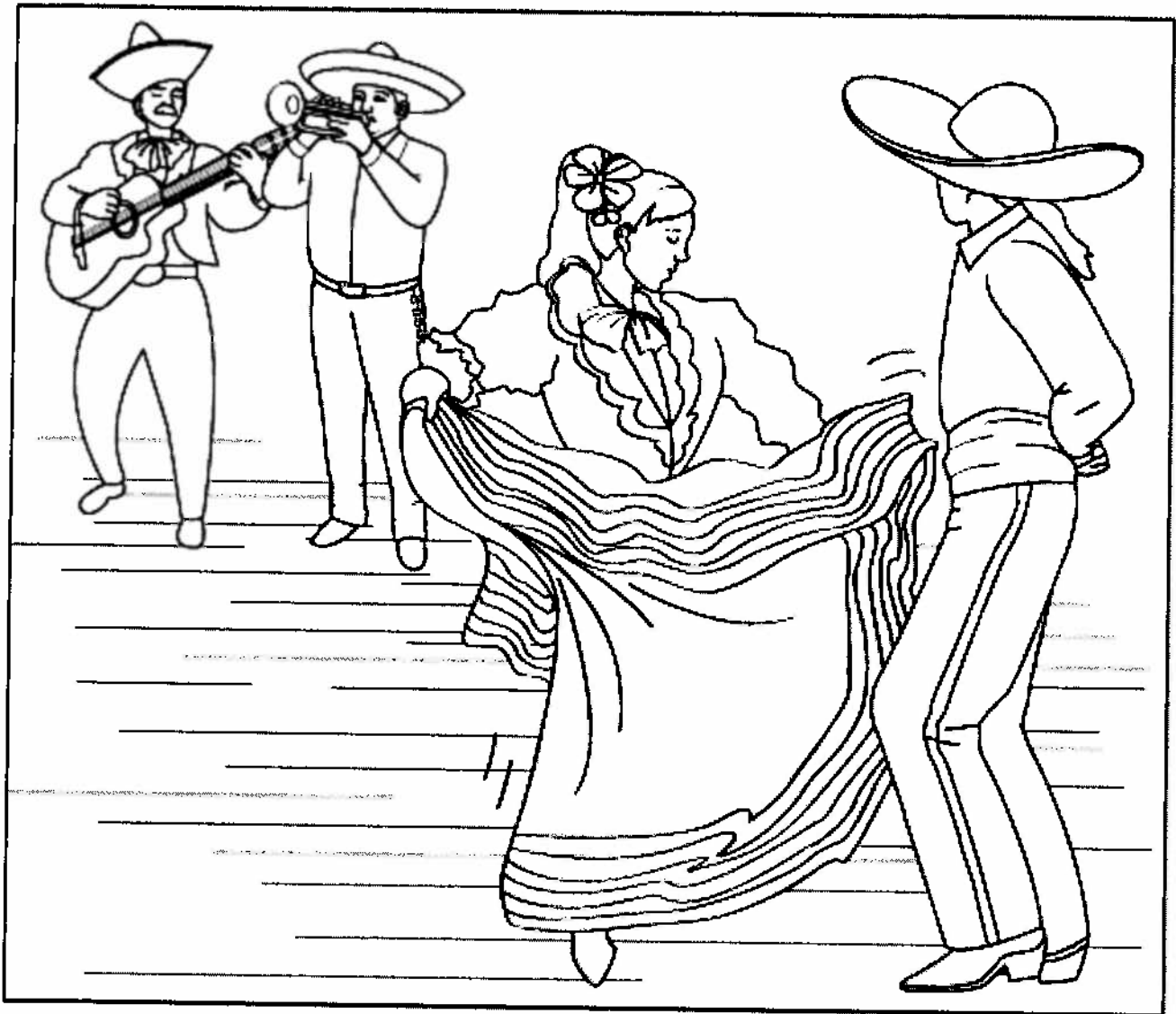
The French army was defeated, and the French  
left in disgrace.

It was at the Battle of Puebla, on May 5, 1862.

The Mexican army quickly beat the French,  
and then the fight was through.



The battle was a turning point in Mexican history. Four years after that short battle, Mexico was free. Now Mexicans, Americans, and people everywhere Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with parades and much fanfare.

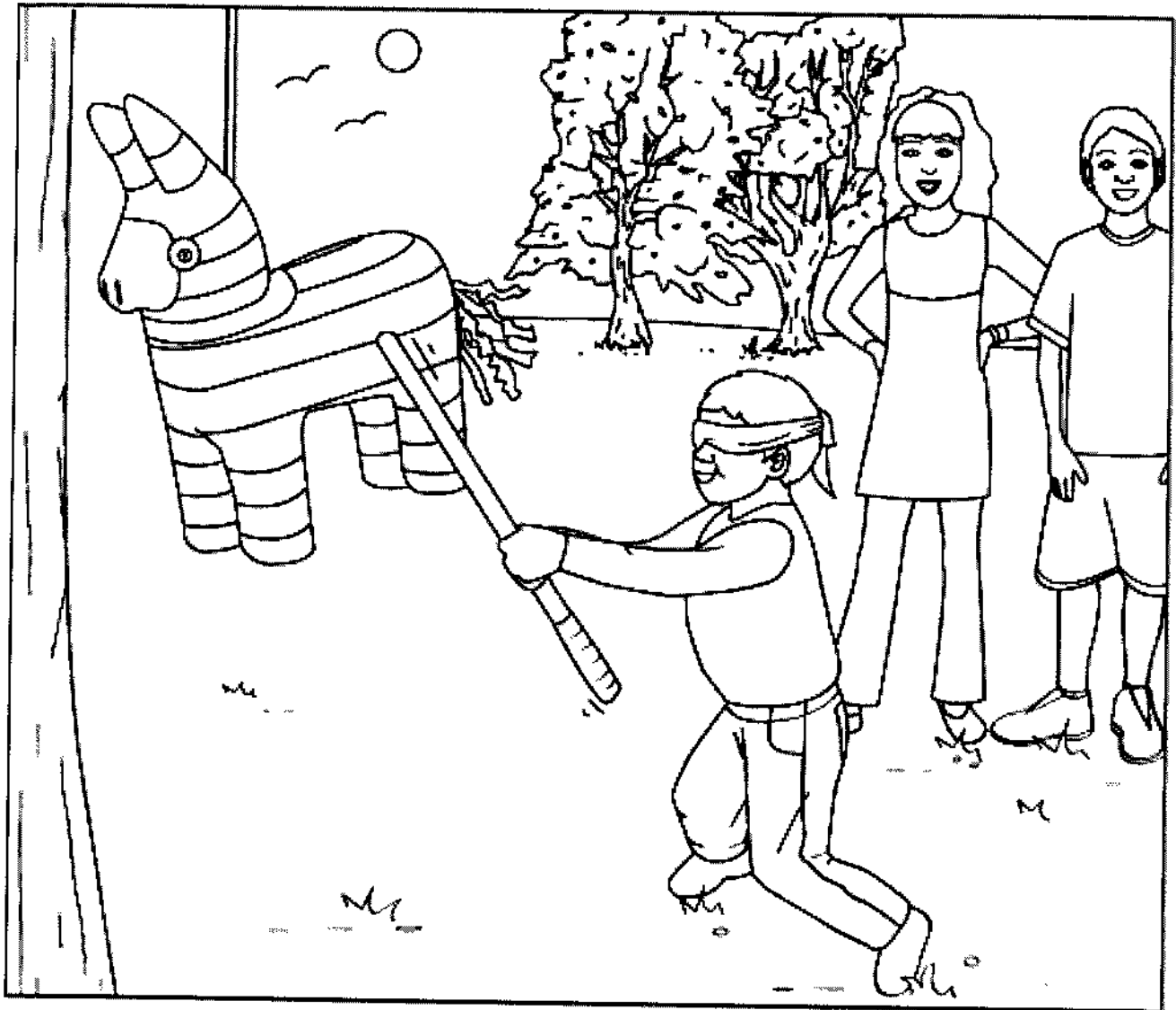


There are fireworks and fiestas, arts, crafts, and  
Latino food.

There are flags and mariachi bands to put you in a  
party mood.

Pretty folklorico dancers twirl and click their  
castanets.

The mariachis play together, while the trumpets  
play duets.



You can throw down your sombrero; try a  
Mexican hat dance.

Eat tamales or a taco or some chilies; take a  
chance.

Try your luck at a piñata; you can hit it with a  
stick.

Get some Piñaloca Pina. It is sweet; just take a  
lick.



The mariachi bands are playing pretty music in  
the street.

Can you hear the trumpets playing? Can you feel  
the Latino beat?

Everyone can join together. It's fiesta time today,  
And the special celebration is Cinco de Mayo  
Day!

1. What does "Cinco de Mayo" mean?
- a. Cinco de Mayo is Spanish (meaning the girl is five).
  - b. Cinco de Mayo is Spanish (meaning the mayor is five).
  - c. Cinco de Mayo is Spanish (meaning five days of war).
  - d. Cinco de Mayo is Spanish (meaning the fifth of May).

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Where did the battle of Puebla take place?
- a. in San Francisco, CA
  - b. in Seattle, WA
  - c. in Puebla, Mexico
  - d. in Pittsburg, PA

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. On what date was the Battle of Puebla fought?
- a. May 15, 1882
  - b. May 5, 2002
  - c. May 5, 1962
  - d. May 5, 1862

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why was this battle important?
- a. It was Independence Day for the Mexicans.
  - b. It was the turning point in their war with France.
  - c. It was a holiday for the Mexican Army.
  - d. It was an American holiday.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



5. What are some ways people celebrate Cinco de Mayo?

- a. fireworks and parades
- b. carving pumpkins and wearing masks
- c. valentine cards and candy
- d. eggs and chocolate rabbits

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What can you do with a stick at a Cinco de Mayo celebration?

- a. break it and build a fire
- b. pole vault into a pile of sawdust
- c. break open a pinata
- d. break open a hive of bees

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_