

Name _____



Lost in Translation

The Hispanic Heritage Festival was in full swing, with vibrant decorations, lively music, and delicious food from various Latin American countries. Families and friends gathered to celebrate their rich cultural heritage. Among the attendees was Carlos, a fifth-grader with a mischievous sense of humor and a penchant for languages.

Carlos had recently started learning Spanish in school, and he was eager to practice his new language skills at the festival. He approached a food vendor and confidently ordered, "Un perro caliente, por favor." The vendor handed him a hot dog with a smile.

Carlos was pleased with his success, but he wanted to challenge himself further. He decided to try ordering something in Portuguese, thinking it would be similar to Spanish. He walked up to another vendor and said, "Um cachorro-quente, por favor."

The vendor stared at Carlos with a puzzled expression. After a moment, the vendor handed him a plate of what appeared to be fried hot dogs. Carlos was surprised but decided to go with it, thinking it was a Portuguese variation of the dish.

As Carlos munched on the fried hot dogs, he noticed a group of people nearby speaking Portuguese and laughing uncontrollably. Curious, he approached them and struck up a conversation, eager to practice his language skills. He told them about his order and how he thought he had asked for a hot dog in Portuguese.

The group burst into laughter and explained that in Portuguese, "cachorro-quente" meant "hot dog," just like in English. They told him that what he had ordered was actually a plate of "salsichas fritas," or fried sausages.

Carlos couldn't help but laugh at the mix-up and thanked the friendly group for the clarification. He finished his fried sausages and rejoined his family, sharing the humorous language mix-up with them.

The rest of the festival was filled with laughter and playful attempts at ordering food in different languages. Carlos even tried ordering a hot dog in Italian, French, and German, much to the amusement of the vendors and festivalgoers.

As the sun set on the Hispanic Heritage Festival, Carlos realized that language mix-ups could lead to unexpected and comical consequences. He also learned that humor was a universal language that could bring people from different cultures together.

