

# Latin Dance

## Instructions:

Your group is responsible for presenting information about a particular Latin dance and its country of origin to the rest of the class. The oral presentation should be about ten to fifteen minutes in length.

You have been grouped into teams of four. Your group should decide together who will have each of the following roles during your presentation:

- one person will report on the history of the dance, including traditional and contemporary costumes and venues (i.e., at clubs or on stage).
- one person will report on the geography, economy, and government of the country of origin
- one person will report on the people, lifestyle, and culture of the country of origin
- one person will use the dance elements to explain the basic steps of the dance and will lead the class in learning the steps. This person is also responsible for finding a CD or audiocassette of the appropriate music for the dance. (Your local library should have a variety of resources.)\

Get creative with this presentation! Feel free to make posters or overhead transparencies. You could also make a dish from the country of origin or wear appropriate costumes. You are free to decide how you want to present the information, but remember that you want to keep your classmates interested in your topic. The more fun and the more visuals, the better the experience for the audience.

Even though only one person is responsible for teaching the class the steps, all four members of your group must help demonstrate the basic steps of the dance.

With the exception of Spanish words that are relevant to your dance, you will use English to present your information. Be sure to define any Spanish words you use.

In addition to your oral presentation, you must translate your oral reports to Spanish, which you will be turning in to me. You will be graded on both your oral presentation and your reports written in Spanish.

## Research:

I will give you some time in the school library for research, but you will need to complete additional research on your own time outside of school. The following Internet resources may be helpful to you, depending on which dance you are assigned.

### **BBC News: Country Profiles**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm)

### **CIA: The World Factbook**

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

### **The Dance Store Online: Learning Center**

<http://www.thedancestoreonline.com/ballroom-danceinstruction/index.htm>

### **History of Dance**

<http://www.centralhome.com/ballroomcountry/history.htm>

### **Introduction to Latin Dance on the Millennium Stage**

[http://www.kennedycenter.org/programs/millennium/artist\\_detail.cfm?artist\\_id=GONZAMBRA](http://www.kennedycenter.org/programs/millennium/artist_detail.cfm?artist_id=GONZAMBRA)

### **National Geographic's MapMachine**

<http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/>

### **PBS's Buena Vista Social Club: The Music**

<http://www.pbs.org/buenavista/music/index.html>

### **Wikipedia**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)