Semana Santa Video Questions

1. What is the most important holiday in the Catholic calendar?

*Semana Santa which is the week before Easter.*

1. How long did the Muslim Moors from North Africa control Seville and the South of Spain?

*500 years*

1. In what year did King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella succeed in driving the Moors out of Spain?

*1492*

1. When does Semana Santa begin and end?

*The week before Easter and ends on Easter day.*
2. How long have the co-fraternities been around that participate in the Semana Santa celebrations?

*Since the 14th and 15th centuries*
3. What do these groups do during Semana Santa?

*They march in processions every day during Semana Santa and they carry the ‘pasos’ or ornamental floats with scenes from Jesus’ final days before his crucifixion.*
4. How long do the processions for Semana Santa last?

*Some can last as long as 16 hours.*
5. What group in the U.S. do the robes and hats of the co-fraternities resemble? Is there any connection between the Semana Santa co-fraternities and this group?

*The KKK uses similar robes that they copied from the Catholic co-fraternities, but there is no connection between the two groups.*

1. What are the main functions of the co-fraternities or religious brotherhoods today?

*1. Worshipping God through devotional practices like Semana Santa

2. Provide social assistance to the needy and organizations that help them*
2. What are the robes and hats worn different colors?

*Different co-fraternities have different colors to represent them.*
3. What is a Mantilla? Who wears them and why are they black?

*Mantillas are black lace head coverings worn by women and held on with combs. They are black because people are mourning the death of Jesus Christ.*
4. Semana Santa is a huge celebration in Seville that draws people from around the world. How many tourists usually come to Seville during Semana Santa?

*One Million tourists come every year.*
5. What are the most special nights of Semana Santa? What happens on these nights?

*The Thursday and Friday before Easter and people often stay up all night of these days with special processions.*
6. Who are the costaleros?

*They are members of the different brotherhoods who carry the pasos, or heavy floats that can weigh as much as a ton.*
7. Who are the capataces and what do they do?

*They lead the costaleros who cannot see where they are going under the pasos and they also help keep their spirits up during the long processions.*