

# VALENTINE'S DAY

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**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Valentine's Day is one of the most famous holidays in the world. It falls on February the 14th and is celebrated across the world. It is the traditional day for lovers to express their love to each other. They do this by sending Valentine's cards with romantic messages. It is common to leave the card unsigned. Other traditions on this day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European thing, but now it has gone all over the world. It has become very commercial. Companies that make Valentine's goods even encourage people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, only women give Valentine's gifts – to all the men they know.

There is confusion over which Saint Valentine the day is named after. It is either Valentine of Rome, who lived in the third century, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, from the 14th century. The custom of exchanging romantic messages seems to have started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland, started producing and selling Valentine cards. Today, over one billion are sent worldwide, with women sending 85 per cent of them. Different companies slowly saw the opportunities to make money from Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond companies began promoting jewellery as the ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants are also very busy on this day.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. It falls on                    | a. unsigned                    |
| 2. the traditional day for lovers | b. American and European thing |
| 3. It is common to leave the card | c. to express their love       |
| 4. Valentine's Day used to be an  | d. give Valentine's gifts      |
| 5. It has become                  | e. February the 14th           |
| 6. In Japan, only women           | f. very commercial             |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. confusion over               | a. are sent worldwide           |
| 2. The custom of                | b. Valentine's gift             |
| 3. over one billion             | c. very busy on this day        |
| 4. opportunities to make money  | d. which Saint Valentine        |
| 5. the ultimate                 | e. exchanging romantic messages |
| 6. Italian restaurants are also | f. from Valentine's Day         |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

Valentine's Day is \_\_\_\_\_ famous holidays in the world. It falls on February the 14th and is celebrated across the world. It is the traditional day for lovers \_\_\_\_\_ love to each other. They do this by sending Valentine's cards with romantic messages. \_\_\_\_\_ leave the card unsigned. Other traditions on this day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European thing, but now \_\_\_\_\_ over the world. It has become very commercial. Companies that make Valentine's \_\_\_\_\_ people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, only women give Valentine's gifts – \_\_\_\_\_ they know.

There \_\_\_\_\_ which Saint Valentine the day is named after. It is either Valentine of Rome, who lived \_\_\_\_\_, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, from the 14th century. The custom of exchanging romantic messages \_\_\_\_\_ started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland, started producing and selling Valentine cards. Today, over one billion \_\_\_\_\_, with women sending 85 per cent of them. Different companies slowly saw the opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond companies began promoting jewellery as the ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants \_\_\_\_\_ on this day.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

Valentine's Day is \_\_\_\_\_ of the most famous holidays in the world. It falls on February the 14th and is celebrated \_\_\_\_\_ the world. It is the traditional day for lovers to express their love to each other. They do \_\_\_\_\_ by sending Valentine's cards with romantic messages. It is common to leave the card unsigned. \_\_\_\_\_ traditions on this day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European thing, but now it has \_\_\_\_\_ all over the world. It has become very commercial. Companies that make Valentine's goods \_\_\_\_\_ encourage people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, \_\_\_\_\_ women give Valentine's gifts – to all the men \_\_\_\_\_ know.

*even  
this  
one  
they  
only  
other  
gone  
across*

There is confusion \_\_\_\_\_ which Saint Valentine the day is named \_\_\_\_\_. It is either Valentine of Rome, who lived in the third century, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, \_\_\_\_\_ the 14th century. The custom of exchanging romantic messages \_\_\_\_\_ to have started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland, started producing and selling Valentine cards. Today, over one billion are sent worldwide, \_\_\_\_\_ women sending 85 per cent of them. Different companies slowly saw the opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ money from Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond companies began promoting jewellery \_\_\_\_\_ the ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants are also \_\_\_\_\_ busy on this day.

*as  
after  
make  
seems  
over  
very  
from  
with*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Valentine's Day is one of the *mostly / most* famous holidays in the world. It *falls / fell* on February the 14th and is celebrated across the world. It is the traditional day for lovers to *expression / express* their love to each other. They do this *at / by* sending Valentine's cards with romantic messages. It is common to leave the card unsigned. *Other / Another* traditions on this day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European *things / thing*, but now it has gone all over the world. It has become very *commercial / commercialize*. Companies that make Valentine's goods even encourage people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, only women give Valentine's gifts – to *all / some* the men they know.

There is confusion *under / over* which Saint Valentine the day is named after. It is either Valentine of Rome, who *lived / alive* in the third century, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, *for / from* the 14th century. The *custom / costume* of exchanging romantic messages seems to have started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland, started producing and selling Valentine cards. Today, over one *billionth / billion* are sent worldwide, with women sending 85 per cent of them. Different companies slowly *see / saw* the opportunities to make money from Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond companies began *promoting / promotion* jewellery as the ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants are also very *busy / busier* on this day.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Valentine's Day is (1) \_\_\_\_ of the most famous holidays in the world. It falls on February the 14th and is celebrated across the world. It is the (2) \_\_\_\_ day for lovers to express their love to each other. They do this by sending Valentine's cards with romantic (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It is common to leave the card unsigned. Other traditions on this day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European (4) \_\_\_\_\_, but now it has gone all over the world. It has become very commercial. Companies that make Valentine's goods even (5) \_\_\_\_\_ people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ women give Valentine's gifts – to all the men they know.

There is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ over which Saint Valentine the day is named after. It is either Valentine of Rome, who (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in the third century, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, from the 14th century. The custom of exchanging romantic messages seems to have started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland, started producing and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Valentine cards. Today, over one billion are sent worldwide, with women sending 85 per cent (10) \_\_\_\_\_ them. Different companies slowly saw the opportunities to make money from Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond (11) \_\_\_\_\_ began promoting jewellery as the ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants are also very (12) \_\_\_\_\_ on this day.

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |               |                   |                 |                |
|-----|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) only      | (b) one           | (c) once        | (d) ones       |
| 2.  | (a) tradition | (b) traditionally | (c) traditional | (d) traditions |
| 3.  | (a) messaging | (b) messenger     | (c) message     | (d) messages   |
| 4.  | (a) things    | (b) thing         | (c) thingy      | (d) thingamy   |
| 5.  | (a) encourage | (b) encouragement | (c) encouraging | (d) encourages |
| 6.  | (a) known     | (b) knows         | (c) knowing     | (d) know       |
| 7.  | (a) confusion | (b) confused      | (c) confusing   | (d) confuse    |
| 8.  | (a) alive     | (b) living        | (c) lived       | (d) life       |
| 9.  | (a) sales     | (b) sell          | (c) selling     | (d) sells      |
| 10. | (a) for       | (b) of            | (c) by          | (d) with       |
| 11. | (a) companies | (b) company       | (c) companies   | (d) companion  |
| 12. | (a) busier    | (b) busiest       | (c) busily      | (d) busy       |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. It alfls on February the 14th
2. exspser their love
3. toriacnm messages
4. leave the card uginsden
5. It has become very coilrmeacm
6. alymif members

### Paragraph 2

7. nmade after
8. from the 14th ucnrtey
9. one lobnili are sent worldwide
10. make ymone
11. the elmiutat Valentine's gift
12. Italian tusertrsaan

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) day are buying chocolates and giving red roses. Valentine's Day used to be an American and European thing, but now it has
- ( **1** ) Valentine's Day is one of the most famous holidays in the world. It falls on February the 14th and is celebrated
- ( ) Valentine's Day. In the 1980s, diamond companies began promoting jewellery as the
- ( ) gone all over the world. It has become very commercial. Companies that make Valentine's goods even encourage
- ( ) in the third century, or Saint Valentine, bishop of Terni, from the 14th century. The custom of exchanging romantic
- ( ) sending 85 per cent of them. Different companies slowly saw the opportunities to make money from
- ( ) messages seems to have started in 19th-century England. In 1847, an American woman, Esther Howland,
- ( ) sending Valentine's cards with romantic messages. It is common to leave the card unsigned. Other traditions on this
- ( ) There is confusion over which Saint Valentine the day is named after. It is either Valentine of Rome, who lived
- ( ) started producing and selling Valentine cards. Today, over one billion are sent worldwide, with women
- ( ) across the world. It is the traditional day for lovers to express their love to each other. They do this by
- ( ) ultimate Valentine's gift. French and Italian restaurants are also very busy on this day.
- ( ) women give Valentine's gifts – to all the men they know.
- ( ) people to send Valentine's cards to their parents and other family members! In Japan, only

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. the the most world famous one holidays of in

---

2. to traditional express day their for love lovers the

---

3. is It unsigned card the leave to common

---

4. become It very has commercial

---

5. In gifts Valentine's give women only , Japan

---

6. of custom The messages romantic exchanging

---

7. are billion one over , Today worldwide sent

---

8. companies money make to opportunities the saw slowly

---

9. Valentine's ultimate the as jewellery gift

---

10. this also day very Italian busy restaurants on are

---

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE VALENTINE'S DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Valentine's Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Valentine's Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Valentine's Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about Valentine's Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.