

LESSON PLAN

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St Valentine's Day

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| Topic | Origins of St Valentine's Day |
| Aim | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to practice reading for gist• to practice speaking skills – giving opinions• to develop reading skills• to extend vocabulary |
| Age/Level | Teenagers and adults B1.1-B2 |
| Time | 50-60 mins |
| Materials: | 1 photocopiable worksheet per student A selection of Valentine's cards and gifts (optional) |

Introduction

This lesson is suitable on or around 14th February.

PROCEDURE

Warm up (5 mins)

Write '**Happy Valentine's Day**' on the board and ask the students what these words mean to them. Speak about the meaning of St Valentine's Day in the students' culture and how the day is celebrated.

Reading (5 mins)

Give students a copy of the worksheet. Ask them to read text **A** quickly and underline the ways people celebrate St Valentine's Day. They could do this alone or in pairs depending on the size and ability of the class.

Check they have understood the gist of the text and underlined the correct parts.

Speaking (10 mins)

Ask students how they feel about these celebrations. If you have brought any cards or gifts, show them to the class at this point and ask them to comment.

Some examples: Do you think chocolates are romantic? / Is it nice to receive a Valentine emoji? / Which way do you think expresses love best?)



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Reading (10 minutes)

Texts B and C propose two different theories for the origin of this day.

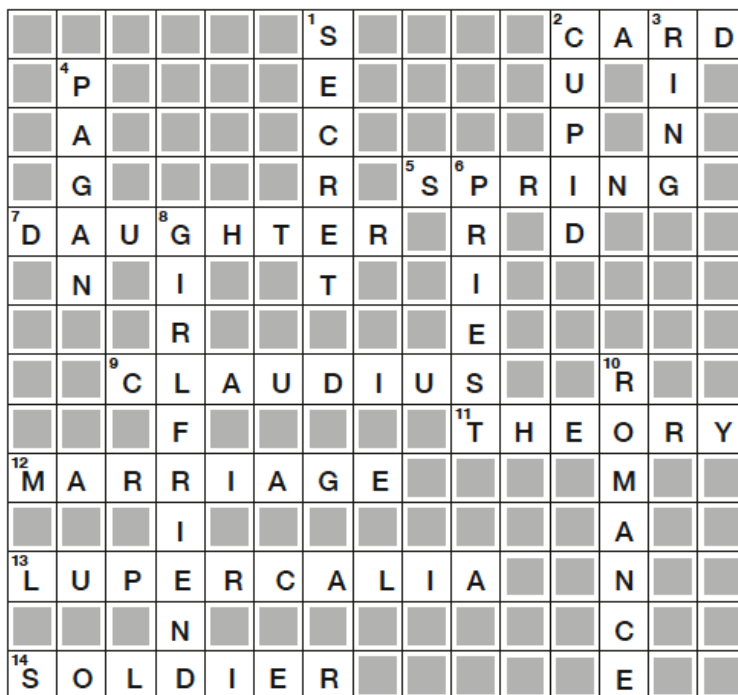
Tell the students that they are going to read a text explaining the possible origin of St Valentine's Day. Divide the class into pairs; one will read text B and one will read text C. While they are reading go around the class and check that they understand the gist.

Speaking (5mins)

In pairs each student explains the theory they read to their partner. Afterwards ask the students if they think one theory is more probable.

Vocabulary (15 mins)

Ask students to do a crossword. Let them know that all the words are in the texts they have read.



Speaking/Writing (5 – 10 minutes)

Ask the students to look at the different opinions expressed in Exercise 2 and to choose one that expresses their personal feelings towards St Valentine's Day. (If they don't want to choose one of the ideas proposed they can invent their own)

Depending on the time available ask them either to tell the rest of the class what they chose and why, or write a few sentences describing what they feel about the day. This could be done as homework.

