



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Valentine's Day 情人节

Valentine's Day 情人节

Will you be sending a card to the one you love? 你会送卡给你意中人吗?

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

In many countries around the world, people in love are **gearing up for Valentine's Day**, a festival to celebrate romantic love.

In the UK, 14th February is usually celebrated by sending or giving Valentine's cards, and sometimes gifts. The day is celebrated by people already in a **committed relationship**, but also by people who want to tell someone they have feelings for them.

Traditionally, people may send an **anonymous card** or gift if they are **holding a torch** for someone who doesn't know it, to make a declaration of love. Though it's very **flattering** to receive an anonymous card, it could be **frustrating** if you have no idea who your **secret admirer** is, and you are looking for a relationship!

The word 'Valentine' was originally the name of a saint. Now, you can say that you're sending someone 'a Valentine', or sometimes 'Valentine' can mean the person who is sending or receiving the card. Some people sign a card 'from your Valentine', and some ask the recipient to 'be my Valentine'.

As well as cards, many other **tokens of love** are exchanged on Valentine's Day. Flowers are one of the most common gifts to give, with red roses being seen as the most traditionally romantic flowers.

However, in these days of **eco-awareness** some people are rejecting **hot-house flowers** such as roses, for **seasonal flowers native to Britain**, for example snowdrops, which grow naturally in Britain in February. This is because of the high **carbon footprint** of **imported** or hot house flowers, and the chemicals used.

Other gifts which are common include jewellery and chocolates, but some people are even more extravagant, **splashing out on a trip abroad or spa pampering day** for their loved one. But some people would insist '**it's the thought that counts**', and appreciate a handmade card and gift, such as home-made heart-shaped cookies more than an expensive one.

Glossary 词汇表

gearing up for 为.....做好准备	committed 作出承诺
anonymous 匿名的	holding a torch for 举着火把 (示爱)
flattering 谄媚的, 讨人欢喜的	frustrating 沮丧的
secret admirer 神秘的爱慕者	recipient 收到卡的人, 接受者
tokens of love 对爱的表示	eco-awareness 环保意识
hot-house flowers 温室培植的鲜花	seasonal 季节性的
native 当地的, 本土的	carbon footprint 碳足迹
imported 进口的	splashing out on 大肆挥霍
spa pampering day (一天的)水疗护理 享受	it's the thought that counts 重在情意 (不在礼重)

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. Valentine's Day is in the middle of February. True / False
2. People always sign their names inside a Valentine's card. True / False
3. Red roses grow naturally in Britain in February. True / False
4. Valentine's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world. True / False
5. It's offensive to give someone chocolates on Valentine's Day. True / False

2. Traditions and festivals 习俗和假日

Do you know which of these traditions happens at which festival?

你知道于这些习俗相对的节日吗?

1. Giving chocolate eggs.
2. Giving anonymous cards.
3. Eating pancakes.
4. Decorating a fir tree.
5. Making lanterns out of pumpkins.
6. Letting off fireworks.

a) Shrove Tuesday

b) Christmas

c) Valentine's Day

d) Halloween

e) Guy Fawkes' night

f) Easter

3. Synonyms 同义词

Each of these words means the same as a word from the text – do you know which ones? You will need to look back at the text.

请从文章中为下列单词找出同义词。

1. biscuits

2. nations

3. holiday

4. costly

5. blooms

6. present

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with Valentine's Day in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与情人节有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的 (g) 垂直的 (i) 或对角的 (m) 形式出现。

v	a	l	c	a	r	d	s	f	h	g	y
a	v	v	q	h	w	o	s	k	l	i	p
c	d	a	d	m	o	j	m	g	b	f	v
f	x	m	l	j	z	c	i	a	k	t	a
l	o	v	o	e	p	l	o	v	e	s	d
o	c	r	k	w	n	o	u	l	r	w	m
w	s	o	m	e	l	t	g	g	a	b	i
e	q	s	f	l	o	w	i	v	c	t	r
r	h	e	u	l	y	z	t	n	e	q	e
s	t	s	y	e	g	p	f	j	e	w	r
r	f	g	v	r	o	m	a	n	t	i	c
k	j	w	b	y	l	e	k	r	s	f	d

gifts	flowers	romantic	Valentine	love
admirer	chocolate	jewellery	cards	roses

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

1. Valentine's Day is in the middle of February. True
2. People always sign their names inside a Valentine's card. False
3. Red roses grow naturally in Britain in February. False
4. Valentine's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world. True
5. It's offensive to give someone chocolates on Valentine's Day. False

2. Traditions and festivals

1. Giving chocolate eggs.
f) Easter
2. Giving anonymous cards.
c) Valentine's Day
3. Eating pancakes.
a) Shrove Tuesday
4. Decorating a fir tree.
b) Christmas
5. Making lanterns out of pumpkins.
d) Halloween
6. Letting off fireworks.
e) Guy Fawkes night

3. Synonyms

1. biscuits
cookies
2. nations
countries
3. holiday
trip
4. costly
expensive
5. blooms
flowers
6. present
gift

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

			c	a	r	d	s			g	
	v			h						i	
		a			o					f	
f			l	j		c				t	a
l				e		l	o	v	e	s	d
o		r		w	n			l			m
w		o		e		t			a		i
e		s		l			i			t	r
r		e		l				n			e
s		s		e					e		r
				r	o	m	a	n	t	i	c
				y							