

3



BEFORE YOU READ

Talk about this photograph. Guess the answers to the questions below. Write your guesses on the lines.

1. Who are these people? _____

2. What is the woman holding? _____

3. What are they celebrating? _____

*Now turn the
page and read.*

Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is always on February 14. It is not a national holiday. On weekdays, schools are open. Banks are open. People go to work. Life goes on as usual, but there is one difference. People give cards and gifts to friends and people they love. They say, "Be my valentine."

There are many kinds of valentine cards. Some people make cards. Most people buy them. Men and women often give each other romantic cards. These cards say, "I love you." The husband in the picture gave a romantic valentine card to his wife.

Children and friends usually give funny or humorous cards. These cards do not say, "I love you." They are not romantic. Children give cards to their friends at school parties.

Flowers and candy are popular gifts on Valentine's Day. Many people give red roses to people they love. Stores sell chocolates and other candies in heart shapes.

Valentine's Day began long ago. Some people think it started in Roman times. There was a holiday on February 15. On this day, young men chose their sweethearts for the year.

For over a thousand years, Valentine's Day was a religious holiday for Christians. Christians remembered Saint Valentine, a kind priest. He died on February 14, 270. Then in the 1300s, February 14 became a special day for love. People gave cards to their sweethearts. They wrote poems on the cards. They drew pictures of hearts too. Valentine cards became more and more beautiful. There is a picture of a valentine card on page 23.

Today Valentine's Day is not a religious holiday. It is a day for love and friendship. It is also a day for big business. Americans spend millions of dollars on cards and gifts every Valentine's Day. But money cannot buy love and friendship!

UNDERSTANDING NEW WORDS

Take turns reading these sentences with a partner. Does a or b have the same meaning as the sentence? Decide with your partner. Circle the letter a or b.

- Men and women often give each other **romantic** cards. These cards say, "I love you."
 - People in love give romantic cards.
 - Friends give each other romantic cards.
- Flowers and candy are **popular** gifts on Valentine's Day.
 - Many people give flowers and candy on Valentine's Day.
 - Not many people give flowers and candy on Valentine's Day.
- In Roman times, there was a holiday on February 15. On this day, young men chose their **sweethearts** for the year.
 - On February 15, young men chose their friends for the year.
 - On February 15, young men chose their girlfriends for the year.
- Children and friends usually give **humorous** cards.
 - Children and friends give cards to make people laugh.
 - Children and friends give cards to make people cry.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

When Is the Holiday?

Fill in the year. Then write the dates for February. Circle Valentine's Day.

February 19 ____

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.

Correct the Sentences

Take turns reading these sentences with a partner. One word in each sentence is wrong. Correct each sentence together. Write the new sentence on the line below.

1. Valentine's Day is always on March 14.

Valentine's Day is always on February 14.

2. Children and friends usually give each other romantic cards on Valentine's Day.

3. Children give flowers to their friends at school parties.

4. Many people give white roses to people they love.

5. On February 15 in Roman times, young women chose their sweethearts for the year.

6. Americans spend hundreds of dollars on valentine cards and gifts each year.

True or False?

Take turns reading these sentences with a partner. Is each sentence true or false? Decide with your partner. Put an X under TRUE or FALSE.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Flowers and candy are popular Valentine gifts.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
2. The date of Valentine's Day changes every year.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3. Valentine's Day is a day for love, friendship, and big business.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4. Valentine's Day is a religious holiday in the United States.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. Valentine's Day is for children only.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

BEFORE YOU CONTINUE

- Look at your guesses on page 17. Were you right?
- Now fill in Valentine's Day on the Holiday Chart on page 153.



TALK ABOUT IT

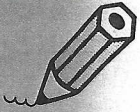
What is important in a girlfriend or boyfriend? Interview a partner about these 10 qualities. Circle 1, 2, 3, or 4 for each.

Partner's Name: _____

QUALITY	1 Very Important	2 Important	3 Not Very Important	4 Not Important
looks	1	2	3	4
age	1	2	3	4
nationality	1	2	3	4
religion	1	2	3	4
income	1	2	3	4
education	1	2	3	4
honesty	1	2	3	4
sense of humor	1	2	3	4
kindness	1	2	3	4
romance	1	2	3	4

Which three qualities are the most important? Ask your partner. Write your partner's answers here. Then share the answers with the class.

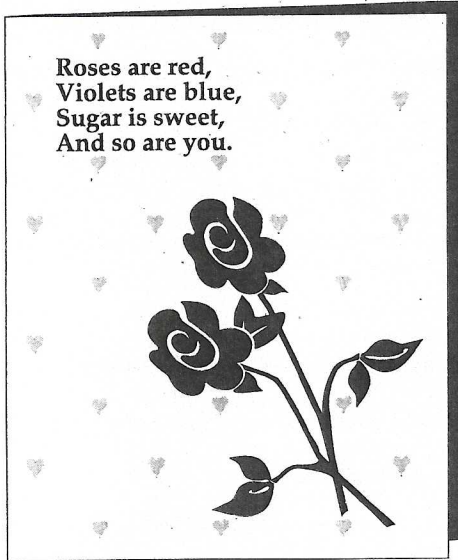
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



WRITE

On Valentine's Day, some people make cards for their friends and sweethearts. Others buy cards like the one below. Some people put messages in the newspaper for their friends and sweethearts to read.

Look at this valentine card and these valentine messages from the newspaper.



<p>KENNY To my Sweetheart and love of my life. Forever we'll be together. <i>Yours Always.</i></p> <p>LOVE</p>	<p>M.G. <i>be my Valentine</i> I love you! I will always love you!! Always, Forever!!! Maria</p>
<p><i>Kristine</i> ♥♥♥♥ Happy Valentine's Day to the one I love with all my heart and soul. You make me the luckiest man in the world. Love Steven XXX000</p>	<p>MARY ANN Happy Valentine's Day! Happy Anniversary! 8 is great, but 9 will be even better. <i>Love Joe</i></p> <hr/> <p>LOUIE & GLORIA AVILA To the special Husband and Daughter in my life. Love always, Aida</p>

Now write a valentine greeting for someone you love.



LET'S SING

There are many American love songs. People first sang this love song in 1910. It was very popular. People sing this song today too.

Let Me Call You Sweetheart

Let me call you sweetheart,
I'm in love with you.
Let me hear you whisper,
That you love me too.
Keep the love-light glowing,
In your eyes so true.
Let me call you sweetheart,
I'm in love with you.

Repeat.