

1. Valentine's Day

This week's lesson explores how Valentine's Day is celebrated in different countries around the world.

Level

Intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. If your students are from different countries, warm up by asking them what the customs are in their country regarding Valentine's Day.
2. Give each student a copy of Worksheet A and ask them to work in pairs or small groups and discuss what they know about Valentine's Day traditions in the countries in the box. Tell them that if they don't know anything about these countries' Valentine's Day traditions, they could make predictions and later find out whether they were correct.
3. When the students have finished their discussions, ask them to read the questions in Exercise 2. See if anyone can answer any of the questions before they read the text, but do not check answers at this stage.
4. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B and ask them to scan the text to find the answers to the questions. Encourage them to look up new vocabulary.
5. After allowing time for discussion, check answers in open class.

Answers:**Exercise 2**

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. China, Japan, Korea | 5. China | 9. Italy |
| 2. Korea | 6. Denmark | 10. France |
| 3. USA | 7. USA | 11. Korea |
| 4. UK | 8. no | 12. Japan |

2. Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/quizzes/valentines/>

A National Geographic interactive quiz on Valentine's Day around the world. Challenging for Intermediate level.

<http://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/videos#history-of-valentines-day>

From the History.com website, a video on the history of Saint Valentine and Valentine's Day. Challenging for Intermediate level.

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17011635/ns/business-consumer_news/t/valentines-day-say-it-bitterness/#.TzpcL SXN8E

An MSNBC article about anti-Valentine's Day cards. Challenging for Intermediate level.