

1

Valentine was a Roman ¹ who lived during the third century. At the time, Rome was ruled by an ² called Claudius.

Claudius was sometimes known as Claudius the Cruel. He was involved in many ³ and battles.

**2**

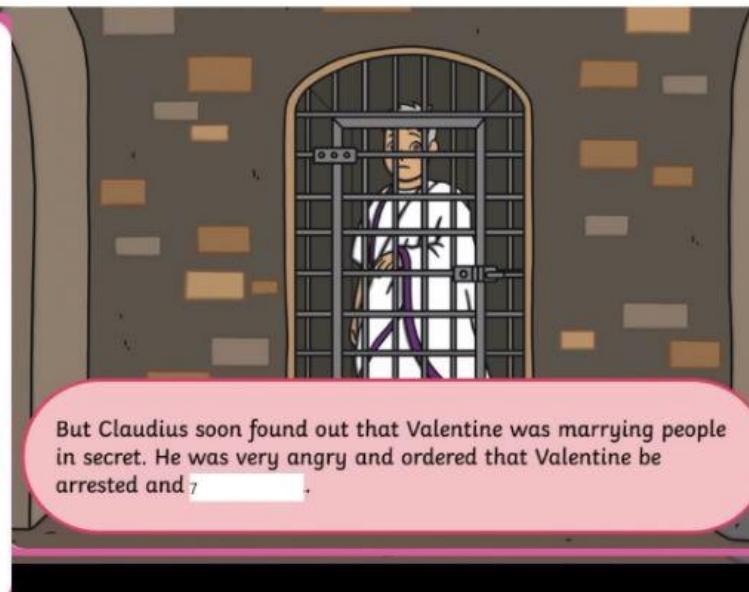
Claudius needed a strong army to fight his many wars. Many men did not want to fight as that would mean they would have to leave their wives and ⁴.

**3**

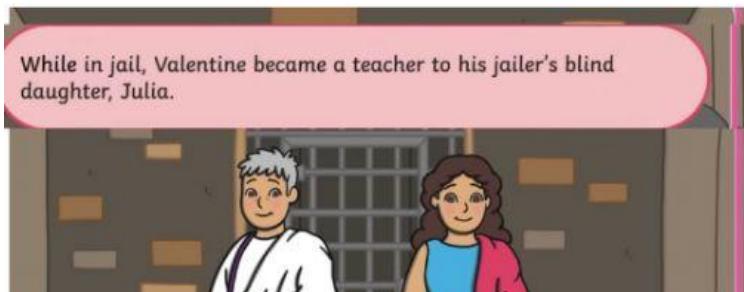
Claudius came up with a plan. He forbade all men from marrying. This meant that they would have no excuse not to join the ⁵ and fight in his wars.



Valentine believed that people should be able to get married if they wanted to. As he was a priest, he began to help people to get married in ⁶.

4

But Claudius soon found out that Valentine was marrying people in secret. He was very angry and ordered that Valentine be arrested and ⁷.

5

While in jail, Valentine became a teacher to his jailer's blind daughter, Julia.

It is believed by many that Valentine performed a ⁸ when he asked God to cure Julia's blindness. After she was cured, Julia's father converted to Christianity.

6

On the day that Valentine died, he wrote Julia a goodbye ⁹ and signed it from 'your Valentine'. Julia was able to read the note because God had cured her ¹⁰. He died on the 14th February.



After he died, Valentine was made a saint by the Catholic church. He is known as a ¹¹. This is somebody who is killed because of their beliefs.