

# St Valentine's Day - Love & Breakups

## 1. History of the legend; True or False

1. Saint Valentine was a Christian priest who lived in Roman times. **T / F**
2. Emperor Claudius believed married men were better soldiers than single men. **T / F**
3. Valentine secretly performed marriages for young couples. **T / F**
4. Valentine agreed to abandon Christianity to save his life. **T / F**
5. Today, Valentine's Day is only about romantic love. **T / F**

## 2. Choose the correct option (A / B / C)



1. After the argument, they decided to \_\_\_\_\_ and try again.  
A) rebound  
B) cheat on  
C) get back together
2. She kissed him passionately for ten minutes. They \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) caught feelings  
B) made out  
C) ghosted
3. He disappeared and never answered again. That's called \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) love bombing  
B) green flag  
C) ghosting
4. At first he sent flowers, long texts and said "I love you" after one week. That's a classic \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) rebound  
B) love bombing  
C) situationship
5. They are not official, but they talk every day and act like a couple. It's a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) red flag  
B) friends with benefits  
C) situationship
6. She started dating someone new two days after her breakup. It was clearly a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) rebound  
B) talking stage  
C) green flag
7. He says he doesn't want anything serious and avoids deep conversations. He is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) clingy  
B) emotionally unavailable  
C) a soulmate
8. When someone gives you small messages of attention but never commits, they are \_\_\_\_\_ you.  
A) catching feelings  
B) making out  
C) breadcrumbing

## Reading - Valentine's Day – I sent a letter to my love...

February 14th is traditionally a celebration of love, so how do people in the UK mark the occasion?

### Declarations of love

Sending a Valentine's card to a loved one is a custom that has been going on for at least 150 years, if not longer. **Couples** will give them to each other, but it is also common to send an **anonymous** card to someone you secretly love. This practice is particularly common in schools and can be a **source** of great **amusement** and **embarrassment**, as everyone tries to work out who sent a card to whom.

### Love and technology

Another way of letting someone know you love them on Valentine's Day is to put an **advert** in a newspaper. Nowadays, social media sites and mobile phone messages are taking over this role. On Valentine's Day 2008, an **estimated** 80 million texts were sent between mobile phones, which was six times the number of cards sent by **"snail" mail**.

Suggested texts include:

- **WUBMV** – will you be my Valentine
- **xoxoxoxoxo** – hugs and kisses
- **LUWAM<3** – love you with all my heart
- **ImRdy4Luv** – I'm ready for love
- **:'- )** – I'm so happy, I'm crying
- **ILUVU** – I love you

Picture messaging is another way to show Valentine's Day desires. A **flirtatious wink** or "mmmmm sexy!" shows affection, while horny devils and hearts guarantee to **ignite** the **sparks** of passion. For those wanting to **cool off** an **undesirable** admirer, the picture of someone washing their hair will guarantee they get the message!

### Flowers and chocolates

As well as cards, Valentine's Day also brings a lot of **gift-giving**, though it is usually men who are expected to give presents to their wives and girlfriends. Flowers and chocolates remain popular **choices**, roses being the most popular, but advice from magazines and newspapers is usually that men should try to be more **imaginative**.

One Cotswolds hotel is offering a *chocoholics weekend for two*. Dinner is asparagus in a white chocolate sauce, followed by a chocolate treasure hunt around the local area. Maybe they could take some inspiration from this!

### Wackier gifts

For those who think these ideas seem a little **mundane**, there is an ever-increasing range of more unusual gifts to give the one you love. How about a helicopter flight for men or a balloon ride for women? Or maybe the chance to test-drive a Ferrari for him, and a pampering session at a **health** club for her?

As with other holidays and events, Valentine's Day is an opportunity for ever-increasing **commercialism**. For the truly committed, Valentine's Day is a popular day to either propose or get married — you'd never forget your wedding anniversary!

### Vocabulary: Translate into English

couples

sparks

source

cool off

amusement

undesirable

embarrassment

gift-giving

advert

choices

estimated

imaginative

snail (mail)

mundane

flirtatious

health

ignite

wink

**According to the text, sending Valentine's cards in the UK**

- A) started less than 50 years ago
- B) is a very recent tradition
- C) has existed for over a century

**2. Why can anonymous Valentine's cards be embarrassing in schools?**

- A) Because teachers read them out loud
- B) Because students try to guess who sent them
- C) Because they are usually rejected

**3. What does the text say about modern ways of expressing love?**

- A) They have completely replaced cards
- B) They are becoming more popular than traditional cards
- C) They are less emotional than handwritten messages

**4. Why is Valentine's Day 2008 mentioned in the text?**

- A) To show when Valentine's Day became commercial
- B) To compare the number of texts sent to cards

C) To explain when mobile phones became popular

**5. What is the purpose of some picture messages mentioned in the text?**

- A) Only to express romantic interest
- B) To end a relationship politely
- C) To show affection or discourage attention

**6. What does the text suggest about gift-giving on Valentine's Day?**

- A) Women usually give more gifts than men
- B) Men are expected to be creative with their gifts
- C) Gifts are no longer important

**7. Why is Valentine's Day described as an opportunity for commercialism?**

- A) Because people stop celebrating love
- B) Because many businesses offer special products and experiences
- C) Because people prefer practical gifts

**8. Why do some couples choose Valentine's Day to get married or propose?**

- A) Because it is cheaper than other days
- B) Because it is easier to organise
- C) Because the date is easy to remember

**Complete the sentences using the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets.**

1. Last Valentine's Day, they \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to a romantic restaurant.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ (not / buy) her any flowers.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ she \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) happy during the relationship?



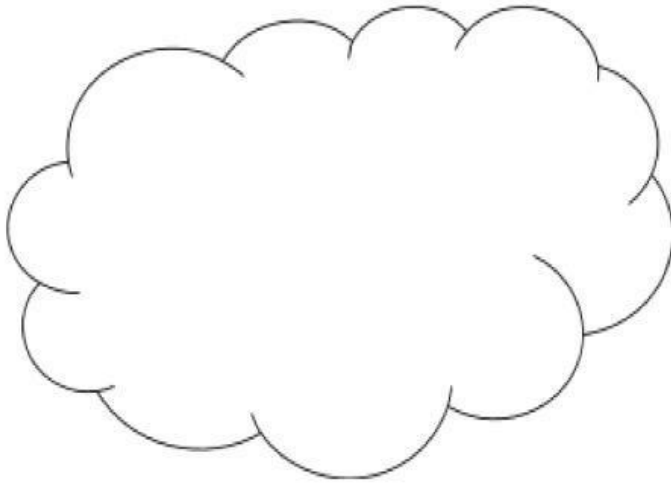
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) too much money on gifts.
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not / forgive) him after the argument.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ (have) enough time together?
7. He \_\_\_\_\_ (write) her a love letter.
8. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not / trust) him anymore.
9. They \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) at a Valentine's party two years ago.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ (break) her heart?

### Quantifiers

1. He didn't have \_\_\_\_\_ date planned for Valentine's Day.
2. She didn't have patience \_\_\_\_\_ during the talking stage.
3. They had too \_\_\_\_\_ arguments in their on-and-off relationship.
4. At the beginning, he showed \_\_\_\_\_ red flags.
5. She didn't give him \_\_\_\_\_ explanation before ghosting him.
6. They spent \_\_\_\_\_ time together before they decided to DTR.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ commitment issues made the relationship impossible.
8. After the breakup, she went on \_\_\_\_\_ one-night stand.
9. They didn't have trust \_\_\_\_\_ in their long-distance relationship.
10. She went on \_\_\_\_\_ dates before she decided he was emotionally unavailable.
11. He didn't feel \_\_\_\_\_ chemistry on the date.
12. They shared good moments \_\_\_\_\_ before the slow fade started.
13. She didn't have \_\_\_\_\_ clear soulmate idea anymore.
14. He sent her breadcrumb messages \_\_\_\_\_ but never real commitment.

***Desperation day - How I met your Mother (S6 - E16; min 2:15)***

3. Find 3 words you don't understand from the video of Barney



*New words*

True or False

1. Desperation Day is a true festive day in the USA. **True/ False**
2. Thousands of years ago, Saint Valentine performed weddings in secret. **True/ False**
3. Saint Desperatius was Saint Valentine's brother. **True/ False**
4. The Roman girl thinks that she is too young to get married. **True/ False**
5. Barney makes a reference to the eruption at Pompeii. **True/ False**
6. Robin agrees with Barney. **True/ False**
7. Robin is going on a date on Valentine's Day. **True/ False**
8. Robin is spending February 13th with two single coworkers. **True/ False**
9. Barney is fed up with girls approaching and trying to flirt with him. **True/ False**
10. It was Robin's idea to wear purple. **True/ False**
11. Beth is so proud of her idea of wearing purple as a pride emotion. **True/ False**
12. Robin's friends leave her after they meet some guys at the bar. **True/ False**
13. Robin's friend compliments her hair before she leaves. **True / False**