

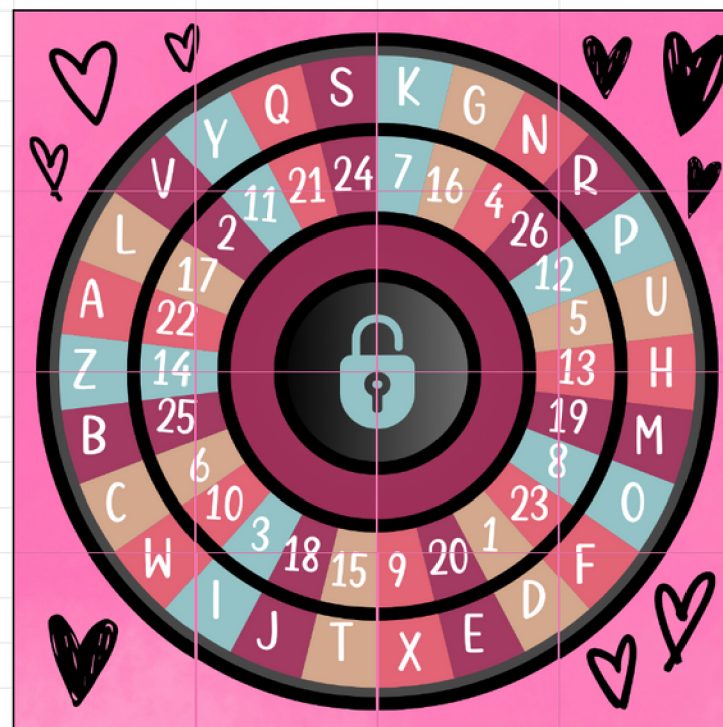
# HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

## READING COMPREHENSION & DIGITAL GAME

### The History of Valentine's Day

Directions: Click [here](#) to read the passage. Then, read each question and type your answer into the box. If correct, your answer box will turn green and a piece of the decoder image will be revealed. If incorrect, the box will turn red. After all 16 questions are answered correctly, use the decoder picture to solve the riddle. Be sure to check your spelling!

| Questions                                                                                                                             | Answers |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 Valentine's Day is celebrated annually on which day? Write your answer in the format MM/DD (ex. October 3rd would be 10/03).        |         |
| 2 The ancient Roman festival of _____ is thought to be a precursor to the Valentine's Day we know today.                              |         |
| 3 The festival referenced in the above question celebrated the Roman god of _____.                                                    |         |
| 4 True or False: All historians agree on the origins of Valentine's Day. Write T for True and F for False.                            |         |
| 5 St. Valentine is remembered for performing wedding ceremonies despite a ban on _____.                                               |         |
| 6 St. Valentine's actions led to his _____ on February 14th.                                                                          |         |
| 7 Which Roman emperor did St. Valentine defy? Select the correct letter.<br>A. Maximus I B. Claudius II C. Constantine III            |         |
| 8 True or False: The tradition of giving chocolate on Valentine's Day began in the 18th century. Write T for True and F for False.    |         |
| 9 By the _____ century, handwritten cards and small tokens of affection became popular expressions of love.                           |         |
| 10 _____ influences have caused great change in how we celebrate Valentine's Day.<br>A. Commercial B. Educational C. Residential      |         |
| 11 Which company is often associated with the retail success of Valentine's Day?                                                      |         |
| 12 Which of the following is NOT listed in the article as a commonly sold Valentine's Day item?<br>A. Cards B. Jewelry C. Electronics |         |
| 13 Some argue that the commercialization of Valentine's Day makes the holiday less _____.                                             |         |
| 14 What is the name of the holiday celebrated in Japan on March 14th?                                                                 |         |
| 15 In Finland, _____ Day is celebrated on February 14th.                                                                              |         |
| 16 After reading the article, what do you think most closely matches the authors purpose?<br>A. Persuade B. Inform C. Entertain       |         |



6-22-5-17-3-23-17-8-10-20-26

Secret Code:

What type of flower should you NOT give on Valentine's Day?

### The History of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, observed annually on February 14th, has a rich history that spans centuries. Some believe that the roots of this romantic day can be traced back to an ancient Roman festival known as Lupercalia, which honored the Roman god of fertility. It is thought that, as part of the festivities, men randomly selected names from a jar to form romantic pairings that often resulted in marriage. However, historians dispute any direct connection between Lupercalia and the celebration of Valentine's Day, considering them completely separate with different cultural origins.

Unfolded, Valentine's Day became associated with St. Valentine, a 3rd century Roman priest. While tales of St. Valentine's legacy vary (and some think there have been multiple St. Valentines!), it is widely believed that he defied Claudius II's ban on marriage by performing wedding ceremonies for soldiers. St. Valentine's actions led to his execution on February 14th, and his symbol of enduring love.

Over the centuries, Valentine's Day evolved into a celebration of love and affection. In the 18th century, handwritten cards and small tokens of affection became popular expressions of love. The tradition of exchanging valentine cards began in the 19th century with the advent of printed cards, marking the modern celebration.

Valentine's Day traditions go beyond personal expressions of love, as commercial influences have played a large role in this change. Companies, such as those that sell goods like cards, jewelry, and candy have turned the day into a success. Restaurants advertise romantic dinners, and retailers promote that commercialization. While some enjoy these aspects, others argue that commercialization has diluted the holiday's original meaning.

SURVIVING  
in  
secondary

# WHY WILL YOU (AND YOUR STUDENTS) FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS RESOURCE?

- ✓ No-prep
- ✓ Sub plan-ready
- ✓ Self-grading and time-saving
- ✓ Motivating and engaging

Answer key  
included!

**The History of Valentine's Day**

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| Questions                                                                                                                                      | Answers |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Valentine's Day is celebrated annually on which day? Write your answer in the format MM/DD (ex. 10/03).                                        |         |
| The first Roman festival of _____ is thought to be a precursor to the Valentine's Day we know today.                                           |         |
| The festival referenced in the above question celebrated the Roman god of _____.                                                               |         |
| Most historians agree on the origins of Valentine's Day. Write T for True and F for False.                                                     |         |
| Valentine is remembered for performing wedding ceremonies despite a ban on _____.                                                              |         |
| Valentine's actions led to his _____ on February 14th.                                                                                         |         |
| Which Roman emperor did St. Valentine defy? Select the correct letter.<br>A. Claudius I B. Claudius II C. Constantine III                      |         |
| True or False: The tradition of giving chocolate on Valentine's Day began in the 18th century. Write T for True and F for False.               |         |
| In the _____ century, handwritten cards and small tokens of affection became popular.                                                          |         |
| Which of the following influences have caused great change in how we celebrate Valentine's Day?<br>A. Commercial B. Educational C. Residential |         |
| Which company is often associated with the retail success of Valentine's Day?                                                                  |         |
| Which of the following is NOT listed in the article as a commonly sold Valentine's Day item?<br>A. Candy B. Jewelry C. Electronics             |         |
| True or False: The commercialization of Valentine's Day makes the holiday less _____.                                                          |         |
| What is the name of the holiday celebrated in Japan on March 14th?                                                                             |         |
| Which day is celebrated on February 14th?                                                                                                      |         |
| According to the article, what do you think most closely matches the author's purpose?<br>A. Inform B. Persuade C. Entertain                   |         |
| What type of flower should you NOT give on Valentine's Day?                                                                                    |         |

6-22-5-17-3-23-17-8-10-20-26

Secret Code: \_\_\_\_\_

(C) KaSaundra Willis and Jessica Amarant Surviving In Secondary 2024

\*PLEASE NOTE: Google Sheets REQUIRED\*

