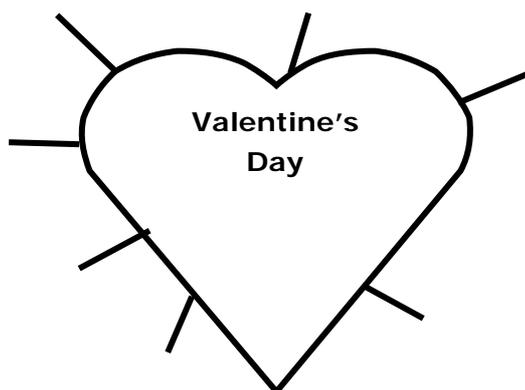


## 1

### READ THE TEXT AND FOCUS ON SIGNAL WORDS

1. The text of this lesson is about Valentine's Day. What comes to mind when you think about Valentine's Day? Write it down in the heart shaped word web.



2. Discuss in a small group. Do you celebrate Valentine's Day? Why (not)?
3. Read the text. Use the Step-by-Step Reading Guide. Use the Word help if you come across a word you don't understand.
4. In this lesson you are going to focus on **signal words** in the text. First, read the explanation.

### EXPLANATION

#### Connections

In a text, you find a lot of information. All this information is related: it has something to do with the subject of the text, one way or another. A writer uses words like *and*, *or*, *but*, *as*, *because* to show you what the **connection** between the various information is. This helps you to understand a text better. We call those words **signal words**; they give you a signal that you need to pay attention, because there is a connection coming up.



Some of these **connections** are:

connections	signal words
enumeration (to sum up things)	and, also, or, first, second, third, on top of that, not only ... but also etcetera
reason	as, because

examples	for example, for instance, such as, e.g.
contrast	but, however, still, though, yet, of course,
conclusion	so
condition	if, when
time	before, today, while

5. Read the text again. Underline or **mark** the signal words while reading. Think aloud. What does this sentence mean?

6. Now answer the questions.

a. **Of course**, you can also send something to a secret admirer, or simply to a friend (lines 3-5). Which *contrast* does **of course**, refer to?

A. Not celebrating Valentine's Day on February 14<sup>th</sup>, but on another day.

B. Not sending presents by post, but giving them in person.

C. Not sending valentines to your lover, but to a secret admirer or a friend.

b. **Yet**, as a man of the Church, Valentine didn't agree with the Emperor (line 10). The word **yet** signals a contrast. In this case, there is a contrast between two opinions. What was Valentine's opinion and what was the Emperor's?

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c. In lines 20-24 the words **first** and **second** signal an *enumeration*. What is enumerated here?

A. Commercial ideas for Valentine's Day that became a success.

B. Moments in time that were important in the life of Saint Valentine.

C. People that hated Valentine's Day and tried to stop it.

d. The text includes some more enumerations. Which of the following answers is one?

A. Before ... and (lines 13-15)

B. But ... you can also (lines 29-30)

C. Not only ... you can also (lines 27-28)

- e. **While** he was in jail, he fell in love with the blind daughter of the jailer. The word **while** signals *time*. What other word that signals time can replace the word *while*?
- A. now
  - B. until
  - C. when
- f. In previous lessons, you learnt about **personal pronouns** (he, she, they, it). They are also used to show you which information belongs together. Who is referred to by *he* in lines 13-15?

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- g. What is referred to by *it* in lines 30-32?

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## 2. THE STORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

The text *Happy Valentine's Day* tells you the story of this special day. How it started, how it became commercial and how we celebrate it nowadays.

**KEY VISUAL**

By completing the key visual below you get a good overview of the development of Valentine's Day.

HOW VALENTINE'S DAY STARTED	HOW IT BECAME COMMERCIAL	HOW WE CELEBRATE IT TODAY

## 3.

### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. In the text about Valentine's Day you find all sorts of presents that you can send to your lover/friend/secret admirer. Write down as many presents as you can find in the text.

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2. What other word for *prison* (line 12) do you see in the text?

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3. Why is Valentine's Day celebrated on February 14<sup>th</sup>?

- A. This is the day Saint Valentine died.
- B. This is the day Saint Valentine fell in love.
- C. This is the day Saint Valentine was born.

4. Read the text below the heading **How Valentine's Day grew** again. What other time of the year do people send a lot of cards?

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5. What does the word *anonymously* (line 31) mean?

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6. What is the difference between getting a *red* rose or getting a *pink* one (lines 29-32)?

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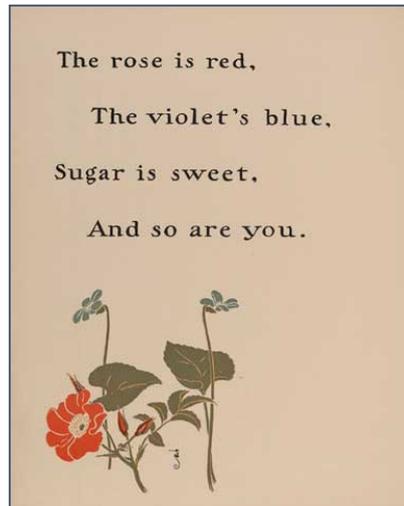
7. What are your plans for Valentine's Day?

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## 4. WRITE A POEM

Valentine's Day is the day people traditionally write poems for the people they love. For example the poem in the text:



Read the explanation.

### EXPLANATION

An **eleven** poem is a poem of eleven words. The poem has five lines.

It looks like this:

line 1: one word, for example:

line 2: two words

line 3: three words

line 4: four words

line 5: one special word to finish the poem

*Oh  
my darling  
please be mine  
stay with me forever  
Valentine!*



Write a poem of eleven words about Valentine's Day or about someone special.

