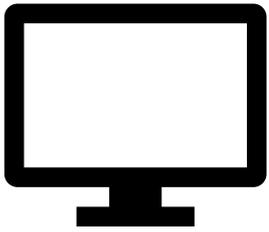


VALENTINE'S DAY AROUND THE WORLD



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VALENTINE'S DAY

In the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated every year on February 14th. Originally, the day was created to celebrate Saint Valentine. Saint Valentine performed weddings for soldiers who were not allowed to marry and was imprisoned for his actions. While in jail, Saint Valentine wrote a letter to a woman. His letter was signed "From your Valentine." Claudius II was the Roman emperor at the time who banned (did not allow) marriages and engagements in Rome. He believed that the men of Rome were not willing to join his army because of their love for their wives and children. At that time, Valentine's Day was not associated with flowers or chocolate.

In Argentina, they do not celebrate Valentine's Day in February, but they do celebrate the "Week of Sweetness" in July. The week is known as "Semana de la Dulzura" and was originally created by a candy company called Arcoir as a marketing campaign. The last day of Sweetness Week is called "Friendship Day."

In Ghana, February 14th is called "National Chocolate Day." Ghana is one of the largest cocoa-producing countries in the world and the second-biggest exporter of cocoa beans. The day was created to promote tourism and boost consumption of chocolate.

In Wales, Valentine's Day is celebrated on January 25, and is known as the "Day of San Dwynwen." As a tradition from the 16th century, people exchange handcrafted wooden spoons on this day. The tradition comes from Welsh sailors at sea that carved beautiful designs into wooden spoons to bring back to their loved ones at home. The spoons often included carvings of horseshoes, a symbol for good luck, and wheels, to symbolize support.

Spain celebrates the "Feast of Saint Dionysus" on October 9th. The day of love includes festivals and music. Men commonly make a "maccador" or marzipan figurine for the woman in their life. Marzipan is a candy-like mixture of almonds, sugar, corn syrup, and egg whites.

The Italian city of Verona receives over 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet every year on Valentine's Day. The letters share stories of lost love. The Juliet Club answers each letter by hand. Verona is where Romeo and Juliet lived. Romeo and Juliet are featured in Shakespeare's play which was published in 1597. Today, a popular Valentine's Day gift in Italy is Baci Perugina. Baci Perugina are chocolate-covered hazelnuts wrapped in a slip of paper with a love quote.

In Denmark, Danish people give white flowers known as snowdrops to their loved ones. Men give women funny poems or cards known as

What color rose symbolizes innocence? *

- Yellow
- Red
- White
- Black

What country celebrates a Week of Sweetness? *

- Argentina
- Spain
- Italy
- Ghana

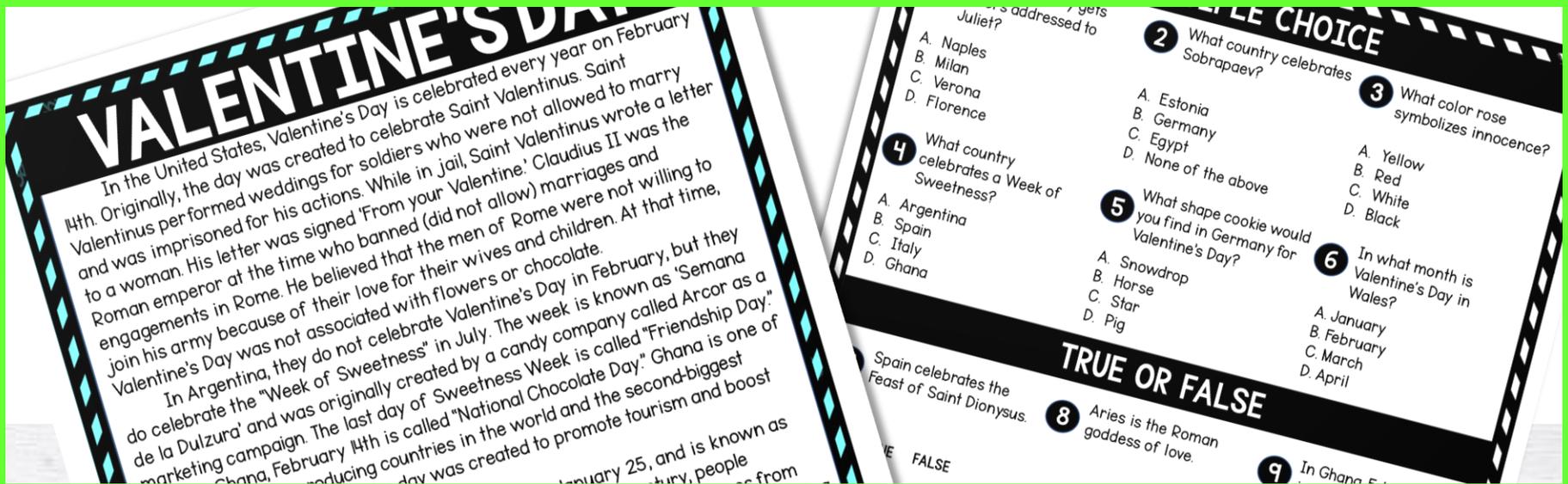
What shape cookie would you find in Germany for Valentine's Day? *

- Snowdrop
- Horse
- Star
- Pig



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS



Digital or print



INCLUDED

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
 - ✓ ANSWER KEY
 - ✓ 15 QUESTIONS
 - ✓ SELF-GRADING
- ✓ PRINTABLE VERSION
- ✓ DIGITAL VERSION



QUESTION TYPES

-  **MULTIPLE CHOICE (6)**
-  **TRUE OR FALSE (9)**
-  **EDITABLE QUESTIONS
(FOR DIGITAL VERSION)**

True

False



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✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
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True

False



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-  SAVES YOU TIME
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