

GLOBAL TALK

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE *Topic of this month: Valentine's Day*

■ Valentine's Day in America

■ 英語で愛をささやく



2月の一大イベントと言えばバレンタインデー！皆さんはどのようにバレンタインデーを過ごしましたか？今回は米沢校のNicholas先生がアメリカのバレンタインデーについて書いてくれました。

“I”n America Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14. It is a holiday to celebrate love, and many people give cards, letters, flowers, chocolate, or presents to the person they love. Many people also plan romantic dates such as going to a nice restaurant.

There are a number of Saints called Valentine who are honored on February 14. The day became associated with romantic love in the Middle Ages in England. Traditionally, lovers exchanged hand written notes. Commercial cards became available in the mid nineteenth century.

In America, Valentine's day is a day where the boy or man, usually does something nice for his partner. Girls can feel free to buy a gift or to do something nice for somebody they like, but usually they wait for the guys to make the move. Even people who are not in a relationship can use this day as a good chance to confess to the person whom they like. You can do this easily by asking the person to be your “Valentine”. If they accept, this will mean that they are your special person (at least for the day) to spend the day with, and hopefully enjoy and have a fun time with.

Many elementary schools in America take this day to do little activities in class instead of the normal everyday routine. These activities can include making small paper mailboxes, which

the children then use to exchange valentines.

Valentines are little letters or cards, that tell people how you feel about them. Though in the Elementary School setting almost everybody gives everybody a valentine, just so nobody is left out. Valentine's day in Jr. High or High School can be much more competitive and to some even depressing.

Valentine's Day is not all fun and games though. Many people can be made to feel left out and unwanted. Some single people see this day as a good chance to find someone new, but many hate and loathe this day. Happy couples are all around you, and hearts and flowers hang in every shop window. This can just rub in the fact that you don't have somebody. It can be very painful, especially at a more sensitive age.

On Valentine's Day pink and red hearts are all around you. As well as pictures of Cupid, who is usually a small person with wings and a bow and arrow which he uses to shoot people in the hearts to make them fall in love. This is a holiday that most people either love or hate. Some even call it a card company's holiday which is just a good day for companies to make money. However you feel about it, Valentine's Day is celebrated worldwide, and in many different ways. It is here to stay.

♥ *Valentine's Day* ♥

