

Valentine's Day

Mel and Doron discuss Valentine's day experiences.

Mel: So, Doron, what did you do last Valentine's Day?

Doron: Last Valentine's day I got disappointed I think, cause I teach at university, and I'd heard that Japanese students always give their teachers loads and loads of chocolate, and even though it was my fifth year, and every other year I only got like two or three, I was still really excited cause I'm at university now and I got two chocolate bars.

Mel: Oh, really?

Doron: How, about you? Are you looking forward to it this year?

Mel: I'm planning on going to Korea with my co-workers to escape the Valentine's Day.

Doron: To escape?

Mel: Atmosphere, yes.

Doron: You're not a fan then?

Mel: I like Valentine's Day, but I don't plan on celebrating it this year. Is Valentine's Day big in England?



Doron: I haven't lived in England for awhile now, about ten years. When I was a kid it was big in school, like in junior school, and we used to have a little Valentine's post box in your class where you could write little messages to your classmates and then you put it in the box and it'd get delivered.

Mel: Oh, in a box?

Doron: Yeah, in a little Valentine's post box.

Mel: Oh, cool.

Doron: The teacher would deliver them.

Mel: Did you only get notes or did you get candy as well?

Doron: No, it was just notes. In England we don't really give candy and chocolate and presents to people. We just give letters, unless it's like a boyfriend or a girlfriend or something.

But when you are seven, you don't really bother.

Mel: Well, the thing I liked about Valentine's Day as a kid was that you'd get Valentine's Day cards from everyone, but I was always curious to see what the boy I liked wrote to me.

Doron: Did you know who wrote what to you?

Mel: Yeah, they would sign their name on the card.

Doron: What? They sign names?

Mel: Yeah, it'd be like. Happy Valentine's Day Adam.

Doron: Oh, in England I don't think you don't put your name. Even if you know who it's from. You know it's from your girlfriend, or your best friend, or your grandma, or something, I think you just put a big question mark.

Valentine's Day Continued...

Mel: Really?

Doron: It's half the fun. You have to figure it out.

Mel: But my favorite Valentine's Day gift is always from my mom.

Doron: She gives you a gift every year.

Mel: She'll send me gifts in the mail, and when I was in elementary school, she would hide chocolates and stuff in my desk. It was awesome.

Doron: That's brilliant.

Mel: Yeah.

Doron: I don't remember getting any really really cool Valentine's presents. I remember giving a couple. I was dating a girl who lived in Norway when I was at university in England and so for Valentine's Day is the same ... I think her birthday was February the 11th or something.

Mel: Oh, yeah.

Doron: So, I just flew over. I e-mailed like her best friend who I knew quite well as well and he picked me up at the airport I and flew over to Norway.

Mel: Yeah.

Doron: And in Norway, it's a very safe country, so they don't really lock their doors a bit like Japan, and he just drove me down to the house and I walked in at like nine in the morning, and she just came down stairs and she nearly died. She thought I was a ghost.

Mel: Yeah. That would be scary but fun.

Doron: Scary but fun. That's what she said when she could talk.

Mel: Yeah, so it was a double birthday, Valentine's Day gift.

Doron: Exactly.

Summarize

Take notes as you listen or read the interview on the left side of the paper. Then write complete sentences to summarize the story in your own words. The first one is done.

<p>Part 1:</p> <p>Last Valentine's day, disappointed</p> <p>Japanese students give chocolate</p> <p>excited, but 2 chocolates</p>	<p><u>Doron was disappointed last Valentine's day because he had heard that Japanese students give their teacher's a lot of chocolate, but he only got two.</u></p>
<p>Part 2:</p> <p>going to Korea to escape</p> <p>Like V-day, but not celebrating</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Part 3:</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Part 4:</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Part 5:</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Start a Conversation

Match the following questions with the appropriate responses.

1. Would you like go see a movie sometime?	_____ My boyfriend is going to be out of town so I think I'm just going to hang out with friends.
2. Do you need a ride home?	_____ Yeah, we are going to go to a really expensive sushi restaurant.
3. Have you ever gone to a pro football game?	_____ Sure. What do you like better action or comedy?
4. Are you planning anything special for Valentine's day?	_____ I only got a couple, but I got a card from a girl that I really like so I'm not disappointed.
5. Do you like Valentine's Day?	_____ No thanks. Actually, I really enjoy walking.
6. Are you going to take your girlfriend out on the town for Valentine's Day?	_____ No, but I'd love to. Do you think you could explain the rules to me?
7. How many people gave you gifts for Valentine's Day?	_____ It's ok, but I think it benefits chocolate and card companies more than friends and lovers.
8. Do you celebrate Valentine's Day in your country?	_____ I would love to, but you have to teach me your language too.
9. Would you like to help me practice my English?	_____ The best thing for me would be very simple: some good food, some good conversation, and a giant diamond!
10. What would be an ideal gift for Valentine's Day?	_____ Sort of, but it's called "Lovers Day" and it's in August.

Keep the Conversation Going

Read the dialogue and continue the conversation.

A: I hate Valentine's Day. It don't think giving a card and chocolate is romantic at all.

B: Well what do you think would be more romantic?

A: Here's what I think would be a nice way to spend time with a loved one. First of all,

How would you spend quality time with a loved one?

A: Why do you think hearts are symbols of love?

B: Maybe it's because _____

What do you think?

ANSWER SHEET

Match the following questions with the appropriate responses.

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2. Do you need a ride home?	6 Yeah, we are going to go to a really expensive sushi restaurant.
3. Have you ever gone to a pro football game?	1 Sure. What do you like better action or comedy?
4. Are you planning anything special for Valentine's day?	7 I only got a couple, but I got a card from a girl that I really like so I'm not disappointed.
5. Do you like Valentine's Day?	2 No thanks. Actually, I really enjoy walking.
6. Are you going to take your girlfriend out on the town for Valentine's Day?	3 No, but I'd love to. Do you think you could explain the rules to me?
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8. Do you celebrate Valentine's Day in your country?	9 I would love to, but you have to teach me your language too.
9. Would you like to help me practice my English?	10 The best thing for me would be very simple: some good food, some good conversation, and a giant diamond!
10. What would be an ideal gift for Valentine's Day?	8 Sort of, but it's called "Lovers Day" and it's in August.