

Valentine's Day

By Chris Graham

Use the themes of Valentine's day and being in love to support your elementary adult students with a discussion and guided writing activity.

Segment: adult

Level: elementary

Materials: handout

Procedure:

1. Introduce the topic by reminding students that it will be Valentine's day on 14 February.
2. **DISCUSSION WORK** - Put students into pairs. Ask each pair to discuss and write down what they know about Valentine's day. Allow three minutes or so for the discussion. You can guide the discussions by suggesting they talk about how the day is celebrated in their country, if they personally celebrate it, and, if they know, the names used for the day in other countries etc.
3. Ask each pair to compare their notes with another pair and briefly discuss any differences.
4. Tell the students that one of the traditions in many countries is to send cards or notes to loved ones with greetings in them. Ask the whole class what they think would be written in these greetings. Discuss their ideas briefly.
5. Read this greeting to the class as an example:

Dear Sarah

I love you because you are so funny.

When I'm with you I feel very, very happy.

When we meet let's go and watch your favourite film.

See you soon, very soon.

With love.

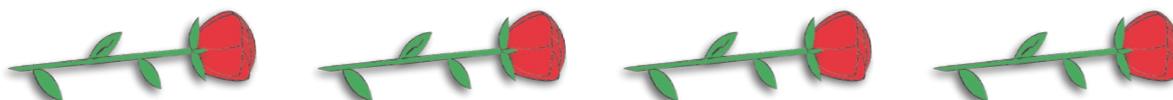
Peter

6. Give students the handout. Show them the three sections of the greeting from section one; *Why do I love you? How do I feel when I'm with you? When we meet.*
7. Ask the students at class level to identify the parts of speech in section two. They should identify adjective, adjective, verb.



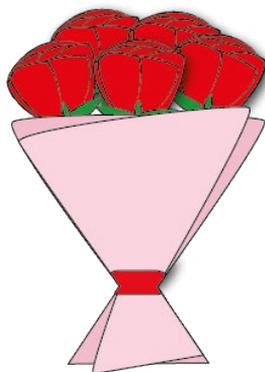
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8. Next ask students in small groups to groups to complete the sentences in section three with the correct part of speech, (adjective, adjective and verb) and be ready explain to you why.
9. **VOCABULARY WORK** - Divide the students into small groups. Ask them to write any suitable vocabulary under each of the three sections. Encourage them to refer to their course books or dictionaries.
10. Share some of the best examples at class level.
11. **WRITING** - Ask each student to work individually and write a greeting to their valentine. Suggest they use the same structure as the handout, but begin with 'Dear (name)' and finish with their name. They should also add one extra line of greeting from their imaginations. You can encourage stronger students to innovate a little more. For example, *"I'm so much looking forward to seeing you on Sunday"*.
12. Ask each student to double-check their writing and then swap their greeting with another student for peer correction.
13. Wrap up the class by reading out one or two of the best greetings.



ALTERNATIVES:

If you wish you, can bring in some paper, pictures and glue so students can actually make their valentine cards. For higher level classes, you can ask students to discuss and then actually write the greetings before they see the handout at stage 6, above. They can then see the handout and revise and edit their greetings



Valentine's Day - Handout

1. These are some of the ideas that might be in a Valentine's Day greeting:

Why do I love you? *I love you because you are funny.*

How do you I feel when I'm with you? *When I'm with you I feel happy.*

When we meet *When we meet let's dance all night.*

2. What part of speech are the underlined words?

funny, happy _____

dance _____



3. What is the correct part of speech to complete each sentence? Be ready to explain why.

a) I love you because you are.... _____

b) When I'm with you I feel.... _____

c) When we meet let's.... _____

Write some other adjectives here:	Write some other adjectives here:	Write some other verbs here:
I love you because you are...	When I'm with you I feel...	When we meet let's...

