Be My Valentine

LEVEL: 5th-6th grades of Primary Education

SOCIOCULTURAL ASPECTS: learning about Valentine’s Day traditions and some other festivities in the United States.

GRAMMAR: The imperative; dates and ordinal numbers; the plural of nouns; word order in a sentence; the prepositions “before” and “after”.

FUNCTIONS: use of the imperative to follow orders; talking about dates in the U.S. format; plural endings in -s, -es, -ies and irregular plurals.

PHONETICS: rhyming words; poems in American English.

VOCABULARY: vocabulary related to Valentine’s Day; days of the week and months of the year; ordinal numbers; names of fruits and flowers; “before” and “after”.

This unit deals with Valentine’s Day, the traditions and the features of current celebrations. From that point of view, aspects such as word order can be worked on by listening to different texts. The imperative form will be used to give orders and follow instructions. This unit also reviews how to tell the date in American English and informs about the different festivities in the American calendar. There is also a special mention of rhyming words and poem writing for Valentine’s Day.

The unit is divided into four parts that can be worked on independently, although it is recommended to start with Part One: Valentine’s Day Traditions as a way to be introduced into cultural aspects that are quite different from the Spanish ones. There are different skills developed in each part but the most important of all, is to have fun!

If you want a printable version of this document, including the key to the exercises and the scripts of the audio recordings, open be_my_valentine_teachers.pdf in the root directory of this unit. You may also find extra activities related to this topic in the text folder of the unit under the name: extra_activities_bemyvalentine.pdf
There is a TASK button on the left of the screens as well as a GLOSSARY and GRAMMAR buttons to help the students work on the different activities. The LEFT and RIGHT ARROWS will help them navigate through the unit. Please, remind the students to use those buttons.

The structure of the unit is as follows:

**Part one. Valentine’s Day Traditions.**

**Find Out.** Three exercises about the vocabulary related to Valentine’s Day that will be introduced in the text in the next scene. The students have to listen and connect the pictures to the words.

**About Valentine’s Day.** The students read and listen to a text about Valentine’s Day. After that, they have to fill in some gaps in the text with the words provided in the box below. They can listen to the text as many times as needed.

**Get It Right!** This activity consists of a true-false exercise in which the students have to click on the true-false icons to get the answers. If they click on the wrong option a help pop out window will come up. This will work as feedback.

**Recording Activity.** In this activity, the students listen to four of the sentences from the text and record their own production with the option of listening to themselves and compare.

**Put Them In Order.** In this activity, the students are requested to put the sentences in the correct order as they listen to them. They can click on the grammar button to check the correct word order of simple sentences.

**Crossword.** Students have to provide some words included in the vocabulary from this part by reading the definitions and looking at the pictures.
Part two. Let's make a card

Let's Make Valentines! The students listen to a dialogue in which some kids are talking about how to make cards for Valentine's Day. The students can see the written text by clicking on the card that is on the table.

What Comes First? In this activity, the students have to read the instructions on how to make valentines and put them in the correct order from the first to the eighth. They can listen to the conversation again by clicking on the audio button.

Are You Sure? This is a true-false exercise to help consolidate the dialogue. The students can check if the answers are right immediately by listening to the feedback sound.

Sorting. In this exercise the students have to choose which one of the three options (get ready, celebrate and like) matches each sentence. The sentences are in the imperative form.

Matching. The students have to match the orders in the imperative affirmative and negative forms with the images. In this activity, the students get an immediate feedback when dragging the arrows to the right place.

Let's Practise. In this exercise, the students have to write sentences in the imperative affirmative and negative forms by looking at the images provided and based on what they saw in the previous exercise. If they score under 70%, the program automatically redirects them to the previous exercise.

Writing. The students have to write the instructions on how to make valentines for somebody who doesn't know about it using the ordinal numbers at the beginning of each sentence. They can print out the exercise and hand it in to their teacher.
Recipes. When the students click on the audio button, they will listen to a "special" Valentine's Day recipe. They will put the instructions in the correct order. There are three recipes and the students can check if they are correct at any time.

**Part three: When is Valentine's Day?**

**American Festivities.** The students listen to the different festivities of the year by clicking on each month of the calendar.

**Recording the Dates.** In this activity, the students listen to the dates by clicking on the calendars. Then, they record their own voice and finally compare it with the original model.

**Practice.** Students have to write down the dates as they would say them in American English, in which the month comes before the day, paying special attention to the upper case letters for the months and the ordinal numbers written after the months.

**What Day?** The students are requested to match the festivities they hear when they click on the audio buttons with the written dates.

**When Is It?** This is the opposite activity-Now, the students hear the date when clicking on the audio buttons and they have to match it with the correct American festivity. They need to score over 75% to be able to continue to the next activity; otherwise, the program will redirect them to the previous exercise.

**Check It Out!** In this activity, the students have to find out the correct day of the week or month of the year by dragging an arrow to the correct sentence. There are more options than answers, so two of them must be left out.

**Guess When!** In this exercise the students have to type the correct answer to some questions. Before and after are used in the questions. Again, there are more options than answers, so they need to concentrate and discard two invalid options.
**Dialogue.** The students record a dialogue asking and answering about different dates. When they are done, they can listen to the complete dialogue by clicking on the all dialogue button.

**Hangman.** Looking at the pictures given, the students need to complete the name of the festivities. There are six possible chances of failure. When there are two words they must be separated using a hyphen.

**Part four: The Fun Has Just Begun!**

**How many?** In this exercise, the students listen to the word that is in the plural form and they are requested to drag it next to the corresponding word in the singular form. The students can check their answers at any time.

**More than one.** The students will write the plural form of the words. They can listen to the word in the singular form by clicking on it. If they need some help, they can click on the grammar button for more information.

**Making Sense.** The students have to unscramble the letters of a word that matches the pictures of fruits and flowers. They can browse the grammar for some help.

**Roses Are Red….** In this exercise, the students listen to some poems and complete the gaps by dragging the correct word to the gap. The words come in rhyming pairs and they need to choose only one of them, so four words will be left out. These poems are related to Valentine’s Day. The first one is the typical poem for valentines; the other ones are just funny.

**Dictation.** The students click on the audio button and listen to the poems. They have to write down what they hear. They can get some more help clicking on the solve button.

**Which One?** This is a multiple choice exercise in which the students are asked to choose a word that rhymes with the one they will hear when they click on the picture. If they choose the wrong word, a pop out text will appear with some help. If they choose the right one, the program will automatically take them to the next word.
Memory Game. In this exercise, the students have to match two words that rhyme. One of these words is written and the other one is read. They need to double click on the cards with an audio icon in order to listen to the word. They can have extra help by matching the colors, too.

Valentine's Messages. The students listen to some messages that people write on the cards on Valentine's Day and they choose one word out of two in order to complete them. They can check the answers at any time.

Write Your Message! Now the students decide which message to write to somebody they like. They can have a look at the previous activity or make up a new message. When they are done, they can print it and hand it in to the teacher.

Be My Valentine - Answer Key

Part one. Valentine's Day Traditions.

Find out

Page 1. kiss Cupid arrows cards hearts Valentine's Day
Page 2. candy roses balloons candles hug

About Valentine’s Day.

Page 1. love fun presents cards flowers
Page 2. hearts candles candy parties dances

Get it right!

1. true 2. false 3. false 4. true 5. false 6. false
Put Them In Order.

1. Valentine’s Day is in February.
2. People give cards to each other.
3. You can even find candy in the shape of a heart.
4. You see a lot of hearts on Valentine’s Day.

Crossword.

Across     Down
2. rose     1. arrows
4. red      3. February
5. kiss     6. Cupid
7. candy    8. card

Part two. Let’s make a card

What Comes First?

First. Buy valentines for your friends
Second. Stick some candy on the card
Third. Write your classmates names
Fourth. Sign your name on the cards
Fifth. Write a message on the card
Sixth. Put a name tag on the envelope
Seventh. Give your valentines to everybody
Eighth. Open your valentines and enjoy!

Are You Sure?

1. true   2. false   3. true   4. false   5. false   6. true

Sorting.

get ready    celebrate    like
buy candy.   give valentines to classmates.   smile when you get Valentine’s cards.
buy flowers. have parties at school.          enjoy going to Valentine’s Day parties.
buy candles in the shape of a heart.          give valentines to each other.
buy Valentine’s Day cards.                    be happy to hear "Happy Valentine’s Day!"
Let’s Practice.

1. Give
2. Write
3. Be careful
4. Don’t eat
5. Don’t forget
6. Don’t be
7. Have
8. Sign
9. Be

Writing.

Students own answers using the imperative for expressing order of instructions introduced by the ordinal numbers.

Recipes.

Page 1
Heart-Shaped Cookies
1st. Mix the ingredients.
2nd. Cut the paste into heart shapes.
3rd. Bake as usual.
4th. Decorate with chocolate kisses.

Page 2
Red Jello Hearts
1st. Prepare the jello with care.
2nd. Use a heart-shaped cookie cutter.
3rd. Keep in the refrigerator until cold.
4th. Serve with love and friendship.

Page 3
Valentine Sandwiches
1st. Cut a heart shape on the bread.
2nd. Spread with strawberry jam.
3rd. Sprinkle sweet hugs.
4th. Eat with love.

Part three: When is Valentine’s Day?

American Festivities.

January 18     Martin Luther King Jr.
February 14    Valentine’s Day
March 26       Spring break
April 22       Earth Day
May 9          Mother’s Day
June 20        Father’s Day
July 4         Independence Day
August 30  First day of school  
September 6  Labor Day  
October 31  Halloween  
November 25  Thanksgiving  
December 23  Winter break  

**Practice**

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<td>April twenty-second</td>
<td>January eighteenth</td>
<td>March twenty-sixth</td>
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<td>December twenty-third</td>
<td>May ninth</td>
<td>The fourth of July</td>
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<tr>
<td>June twentieth</td>
<td>September sixth</td>
<td>February fourteenth</td>
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**Check It Out!**

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**Guess When!**

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<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hangman.**

1. Independence Day
2. Earth Day
3. Halloween
4. Thanksgiving
5. Valentine's Day

Part four: The Fun Has Just Begun!

More than One.

Page 1  daisies  eyes  strawberries  sandwiches
Page 2  roses  blackberries  violets  cherries
Page 3  candles  lilies  feet  cards
Page 4  friends  heroes  hearts  berries

Making Sense.

Page 1  roses  violets
Page 2  strawberries  lilies
Page 3  cherries  blackberries
Page 4  blueberries  daisies

Roses are red....

Page 1  red  blue  sweet  you
Page 2  cherries  blue  eyes  you
Page 3  strawberries  sweet  smell  eat
Page 4  blue  roses  big  stink

Memory Game.

cool- fool  fast- blast  delight- bright  sunshine-Valentine
heart- smart  friend- send  candy- sandy  terrific- specific

Valentine’s Messages.

Page 1  terrific  friend  Valentine
Page 2  blast  cool  friends
Page 3  heart  candy  hero
Be My Valentine – Audio Scripts

Part one. Valentine’s Day Traditions.

About Valentine’s Day.

February fourteenth is Valentine’s Day. Valentine’s Day is a day for romance and love. It is also a day for fun! Valentine’s Day is celebrated in many countries around the world, including Japan, the United States and the United Kingdom.

On Valentine’s Day, people give presents to each other. The cards are called valentines. Some people buy cards, others make them. Many people give flowers, especially roses to the person they love, too.

You also see a lot of hearts on Valentine’s Day. People make pictures in the shape of a heart. People buy candles, balloons and many other things in the shape of a heart. You can even find candy in the shape of a heart!

Some schools have valentine parties. The students give each other valentines. They eat heart-shaped candy. Some schools have other valentine celebrations such as dances, too.

Put Them In Order.

1. Valentine’s Day is in February
2. People give cards to each other
3. You can even find candy in the shape of a heart
4. You see a lot of hearts on Valentine’s Day

Part two. Let’s Make a Card

Let’s Make Valentines!
A: I have to buy valentines for the party at school tomorrow.

B: My mom bought them for me at the store yesterday.

C: Well, you know, I am going to make my own cards and I have candy to stick on them.

A: Remember to write the names of you and your classmates on the cards.

B: I have also written a message and I am going to put a name tag on the envelope.

A: Tomorrow is gonna be fun! I will give all the valentines to my friends and I'll also get mine!

C: Yes! Me too, and lots of candy!

B: Yeah, I love candy, too!

Part three: When is Valentine’s Day?

American Festivities.

January 18 Martin Luther King Jr.
February 14 Valentine’s Day
March 26 Spring break
April 22 Earth Day
May 9 Mother’s Day
June 20 Father’s Day
July 4 Independence Day
August 30 First day of school
September 6 Labor Day
October 31 Halloween
November 25 Thanksgiving
December 23 Winter break

Dialogue.

A: Hello, what is your favorite day of the week?
B:
A: By the way, when is your birthday?
B:
A: Can you tell me which day it is today?
B:
A: Oh! I like Halloween. Do you know when Halloween is?
B:
A: It was great talking to you. Bye!
B:

Part four. The Fun Has Just Begun!

How many?

Page 1       Page 2       Page 3

daisy- daisies violet- violets balloon- balloons
strawberry- strawberries lily- lilies sandwich- sandwiches
foot- feet blackberry- blackberries candle- candles
eye- eyes rose- roses card- cards
arrow- arrows heart- hearts cherry- cherries

Roses Are Red…

Page 1       Page 2       Page 3       Page 4

Roses are red Cherries are red Strawberries are red Violets are blue
Violets are blue Blueberries are blackberries Blackberries are blue Roses are pink
Sugar is sweet blue sweet Your feet are big Your feet are big
And so are you And I like you You smell as good And they really
And I like you eat stink
Dictation.

Roses are red  Violets are blue
Violets are blue  Roses are pink
Sugar is sweet  Your feet are big
And so are you  And they really stink

Which One?

1. candles- sandals  2. balloon- moon  3. kiss- miss
4. heart- tart  5. candy- sandy  6. hug- mug
7. rose- close  8. cards- yards

Valentine’s Messages.

1. Wishing you a terrific Valentine’s Day!
2. Be my friend forever!
3. Happy Valentine’s Day, Superstar!
4. Have a blast on Valentine’s Day!
5. You are cool, Valentine!
6. It is fun being friends with you.
7. Happy heart’s Day!
8. You are as sweet as candy.
9. I want to be your hero, Valentine!