

[Read the following text:](#)

Icons of Love

Each year people all over the world celebrate Valentine's Day, so let's talk about love mythologies!

Valentine's Day is celebrated every year on February 14th. This celebration of love is always interesting. Love has been a subject that has interested many people and cultures throughout time. Many mythologies around the world have a love god or goddess that people believed brought love into the world.

Aphrodite

One of the most famous love goddesses was Aphrodite. In ancient Greek mythology, Aphrodite was known as the goddess of both love and beauty. There are many different stories about how she was created. Some stories say that she was the child of Zeus, the King of the Gods, and Dione. Other stories say that she was born from the foam of the sea. She had a son named Eros, who also became a love god.

Venus

The Ancient Romans also had their Aphrodite. They called her Venus. She was the daughter of Jupiter, and had a son named Cupid, who is very much like Eros. The Romans believed she was very beautiful, and had the power of making people fall in love.

Yue Lao

Yue Lao is the famous Chinese god of love and marriage. He is known as the "old man under the moon." The story of Yue Lao goes back to the year 618. The myth

tells the story of a man named Wei Gu, who couldn't find a wife. One night, he saw an old man, Yue Lao, reading a book. The old man told him that it was his job to bring couples together. Wei Gu wanted to know who his future wife would be. When a little girl walked by, Yu Lao told him that she would be his wife, but Wei Gu did not believe him. A few years later, Wei Gu married her.

Hathor

The ancient Egyptians also had some ideas about love. The name of their love goddess is Hathor. She was really more than that; she was also the goddess of joy, motherhood, and music. Her symbol was a cow and you can see this symbol on many temples in Egypt that were built for her.

We don't have to believe in those stories to enjoy them. Still, one thing is for sure – people have always and will always believe in love.

Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions about the text:

Mark each sentence as TRUE or FALSE:

1. Valentine's Day takes place in February - **TRUE**
2. Aphrodite was the mother of Cupid - **FALSE**
3. Dione was born from the foam of the sea - **FALSE**
4. Yue Lao was an old Chinese man - **FALSE**
5. Wei Gu wanted to get married - **TRUE**

6. Hathor was an Egyptian love god - **FALSE**

7. The ancient Egyptians built temples in honor of Hathor - **TRUE**

Vocabulary

1. Write the PLURAL forms of the following nouns:

mythology, temple, goddess, king, wife, power, child, story, couple

Answers:

mythologies, temples, goddesses, kings, wives, powers, children, stories, couples

2. What are the **opposites** of the following words?

(1) Ancient

a. Old

b. **Modern**

(2) Interesting

a. Fascinating

b. **Boring**

(3) Power

a. Energy

b. **Weakness**

(4) More

a. **Less**

b. Enough

(5) Future

a. Simple

b. Past

(6) Always

a. Never

b. Already

Grammar

1. What are the PAST SIMPLE forms of the following verbs?

have, bring, celebrate, know, build, enjoy, say, make, see, tell

Answers:

had, brought, celebrated, knew, built, enjoyed, said, made, saw, told

2. Rewrite the following sentences as NEGATIVE sentences:

a. Many mythologies have a love god or goddess.

b. There are many different stories about her.

c. She had a son named Eros.

d. The Romans believed Venus was very beautiful.

e. He is known as the "old man under the moon".

f. The old man told him that it was his job to bring couples together.

g. Her symbol was a cow.

Answers:

a. Many mythologies don't have a love god or goddess.

b. There aren't many different stories about her.

c. She didn't have a son named Eros.

d. The Romans didn't believe Venus was very beautiful.

e. He isn't known as the "old man under the moon".

f. The old man didn't tell him that it was his job to bring couples together.

g. Her symbol wasn't a cow.

3. Rewrite the following sentences as YES/NO questions:

a. This celebration of love is always interesting.

b. Aphrodite was known as the goddess of love.

c. She was the child of Zeus.

d. They called her Venus.

e. He is known as the "old man under the moon".

f. The story of Yue Lao goes back to the year 618.

g. The ancient Egyptians had some ideas about love.

Answers:

a. Is this celebration of love always interesting?

b. Was Aphrodite known as the goddess of love?

c. Was she the child of Zeus?

d. Did they call her Venus?

e. Is he known as the "old man under the moon"?

f. Does the story of Yue Lao go back to the year 618?

g. Did the ancient Egyptians have some ideas about love?