

1 Read the text and complete the gaps with: *myth, music, name, three, gifts, friendship, world, boyfriend, residents and countries*. Which traditions are followed in your country?



Valentine's Day around the WORLD

England



In parts of England, there is a 1) _____ around Valentine's Day similar to the story of Father Christmas at Christmas. People spend the evening of 13th February, Valentine's Eve, waiting for Jack Valentine. Jack knocks on the door and leaves sweets and gifts at each house. This custom started in Norfolk, England almost two hundred years ago, and 2) _____ of the area continue the fun tradition to this day!

Brazil



Brazilians have a day to celebrate love, but it isn't 14th February like in many other countries. Instead, they exchange 3) _____, sweets and flowers with their loved ones on 12th June, which they call Dia dos Namorados, or 'Day of Sweethearts'. It's not just a day for romantic love, either. People spend time with family and friends, and give them gifts too, to celebrate everyone that they love. It's a fun day for everyone with parties and live 4) _____ all over the country!

Finland



In Finland, people don't celebrate romance on Valentine's Day like in other 5) _____. They want everyone to feel included, so 14th February is a holiday called Ystävänpäivä, which translates to 'Friends' Day'. People exchange gifts and cards with each other to let their friends know how much they mean to them. It's a great way to show each other how important 6) _____ is, and everyone can feel special!

South Korea



South Koreans don't just have one day to celebrate relationships; they have 7) _____! It starts with Valentine's Day, or 'Red Day', on 14th February. Red Day is when women give the special person in their life sweets, flowers or chocolates. Then, on White Day, which is celebrated on 14th March, it's the men's turn to give the person they love special gifts. For those who don't have a girlfriend or a 8) _____, there's Black Day on 14th April. Singles get together with friends to eat jajangmyeon – pasta with a black sauce made from bean paste.

South Africa



South Africans celebrate Valentine's Day in many of the same ways as others do around the 9) _____ – giving their loved ones flowers, sweets and valentine cards to show their love. However, there is a unique tradition that comes from an ancient Roman custom called Lupercalia. Women write the 10) _____ of the person they care for on a piece of paper and pin it to the sleeve of their shirt on Valentine's Day. It's a fun way to let someone know you like them!

2 Match the broken hearts to connect the tradition with the country where it is celebrated.



England



Brazil



Finland



South Korea



South Africa

Women wear someone special's name on their shirt-sleeves.

A

People celebrate 'Friends' Day' to include everyone in the fun of exchanging gifts and cards.

B

People spend time with family and friends listening to live music, eating, and exchanging gifts.

C

There are 3 days to celebrate – one for women to give gifts, one for men and one for single people to get together!

D

People wait for Jack Valentine to leave gifts on their doorstep on Valentine's Eve.

E

3 Collect information about another country's Valentine's Day celebration. Present it to the class.