

English

NEWSLETTER

SeeYouSpeak®English



Happy Valentines Day!

Members,
"Love is in the air" with the
February edition of
SeeYouSpeak®English.

Inside you'll find tips, advice,
promotions and news. Look
for levels: "easy," "ad-
vanced," "difficult" for prac-
tice within the newsletter.

Happy Valentines day and may your life be filled with love!

Sincerely, Ken Estep



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February
2009

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versation method developed by Ken Estep. Experience the
excitement of improving your English abilities with your per-
sonal American instructor in the comfort of your home.

A Valentines For My Wife

by Eugene Field

Accept, dear girl, this little token,
And if between the lines you seek,
You'll find the love I've often spoken—
The love my dying lips shall speak.

Our little ones are making merry
O'er am'rous ditties rhymed in jest,
But in these words (though awkward—very)
The genuine article's expressed.

You are as fair and sweet and tender,
Dear brown-eyed little sweetheart mine,
As when, a callow youth and slender,
I asked to be your Valentine.

What though these years of ours be fleeting?
What though the years of youth be flown?
I'll mock old Tempus with repeating,
"I love my love and her alone!"

And when I fall before his reaping,
And when my stuttering speech is dumb,
Think not my love is dead or sleeping,
But that it waits for you to come.

So take, dear love, this little token,
And if there speaks in any line
The sentiment I'd fain have spoken,
Say, will you kiss your Valentine?



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Level: **difficult**

"Love ?" from Ken

Love is a complicated thing in all ways. It's hard to describe, explain and even sometimes to feel.

Try explaining the difference between romantic love and familial love. How about the difference between loving your husband or wife and "being in" love. They are two different things of course.

I sometimes struggle as a teacher to talk about love. It can sometimes be embarrassing because it's very personal. Yet clearly we ALL have love, give love, receive love and DESIRE love. So why shouldn't we talk about it?

What about love of money? Is it right or wrong? Can someone truly love money or objects? A lot of men talk about loving their cars. A lot of women talk about loving their clothes or fashion accessories. What kind of love is that?

Sometimes my adult students say "I love my teacher." Do they really mean LOVE or just LIKE? As a teacher I often say "I love my students." Of course it's not romantic love but it's still a kind of love. I love talking to them, learning from them, and teaching them. Over the last 5 years of teaching I've made friends with many of my students in Japan. These friendships are lovely and warm and wonderful!

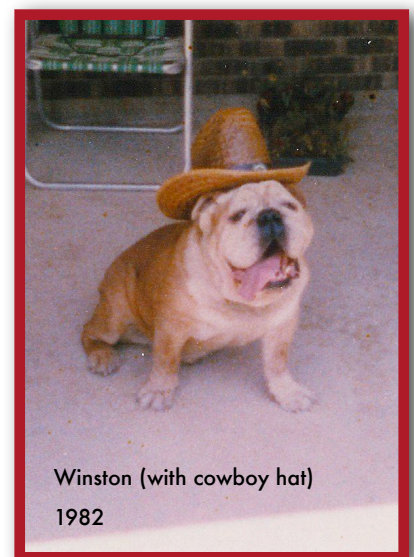
As many of you know, I now live in Los Angeles. Like many big cities in America we have lot's of romantic couples - some are married and some aren't. Some are together for a week and some stay together for a lifetime. Some have no intention of staying together at all. Which brings me to 3 more questions: What is the difference between love and lust? Can you have lust without love? Can you have lust with someone you do love? The questions about romantic love go on and on and on. For example: Can you "be in" love with more than one person? Does each person in the world have only ONE match? and if so how do we find them? Here's a BIG question - Can you LOVE someone that you also HATE?

For students who talk to me on Skype each week, I've probably told you I had an English bulldog when I was a child. The whole family played with him - his name was Winston. He wasn't pretty, but yet cute. He slobbered on us, but we didn't usually mind. He couldn't do tricks, yet was thouroughly entertaining. When he died we all cried and felt that a member of the family was gone. I remember my dad and I buried him in the backyard. Well, as you can probably guess I loved Winston very much. So now I have another question: How is it possible to love an animal SO much? They aren't human, they can't talk, and they can't understand us very well. We have to take care of them - feed them, walk them, clean them - but it doesn't matter because we have such an attachment to them that our hearts fill with love.

Anyways, I have a feeling I could talk about love for the rest of my life and not truly understand it. But one thing is for sure - I'm happy we have it!

Have a Happy Valentines Day!

LOVE, Ken



Winston (with cowboy hat)
1982

Level: **advanced**

Love Idioms

All's fair in love and war.

something that you say which means behavior that is unpleasant or not fair is acceptable during an argument or competition. *We weren't cheating, we were just playing to win. Anyway, all's fair in love and war.*

be head over heels (in love)

to be in love with someone very much, especially at the beginning of a relationship. *It's obvious that they're head over heels in love with each other.*

cupboard love (British & Australian)

love that you give in order to get something from someone. *I suspected all along it was just cupboard love, and what she really liked about him was his car.*

fall head over heels (in love)

be head over heels (in love) - to be in love with someone very much, especially at the beginning of a relationship. *As soon as we met we fell head over heels in love. I fell head over heels in love with Simon on our first date.*

not for love nor/or money

if you say that you cannot or will not do something for love nor money, you mean that it is impossible to do or that you will not do it whatever happens. *It's incredibly popular. You can't get*



tickets for love nor money. He's hopeless and unreliable. I wouldn't give him a job for love nor money.

I must/I'll love you and leave you. *(humorous)*

something that you say when you say goodbye to someone that you are leaving. *Well, I'm sure you've got work to be doing so I'll love you and leave you.*

a labour of love *(British & Australian, American & Australian)*

an activity that is hard work but that you do because you enjoy it. *He prefers to paint the house himself - it's a real labour of love.*

a love child

a child whose parents are not married to each other. *He allegedly has a love child in Australia from an affair with a much younger woman.*



love handles *(humorous)*

a layer of extra fat around the middle of a person's body. *You wouldn't want me to lose my love handles, would you?*

a love nest

a home where two people who love each other live together, or a home where two people meet secretly in order to have make love. *Apparently, they had a love nest in Soho where they used to meet at lunchtime.*

the love of your life *(humorous)*

the person that you love most in all your life. *And there I was, watching the love of my life board a plane to go to the other side of the world.*

love someone/something to bits *(informal)*

to like or to love someone or something a lot. *Clive's the nicest person I know. I love him to bits. 'Do you like your new bike, then?' 'Oh, I love it to bits!'*

Misery loves company.

something that you say which means that people who are feeling sad usually want the people they are with to also feel sad. *On a bad day, she isn't satisfied till the entire family is in tears. Misery loves company.*

no/little love lost between someone

if there is no love lost between two people, they do not like each other. *There's no love lost between those two. They could never work together.*

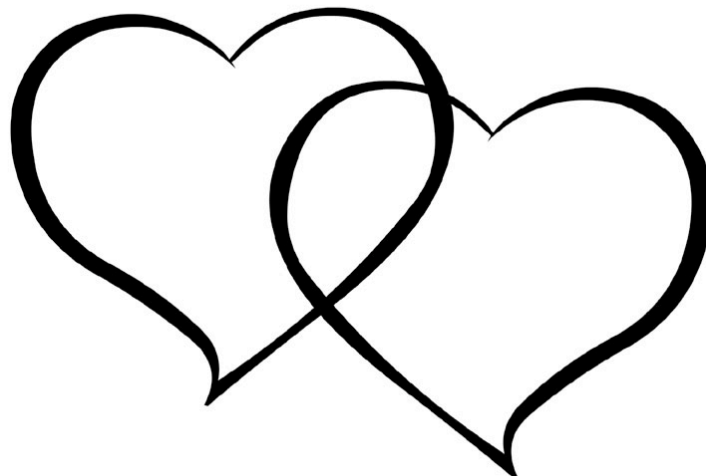
puppy love

romantic love which a young person feels for someone and which usually disappears as they become older. *At the time I was sure I would marry him when I grew up but of course it was just puppy love.*

tough love (mainly American)

a method of helping someone to change their behavior by treating them in a very severe way. *Tough love is the only approach to take towards a relative hooked on drugs.*

[Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms](#) © Cambridge University Press 1998



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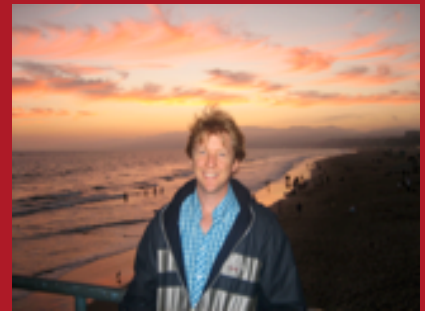


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