

# The Valentine BOX • Part 2

## Grammar Practice • Adapted from an Indian Folk Tale

Grandmother lost her spectacles several times, and dropped her knitting ball several more times, and wanted Roger to take her for a walk, so he was very busy all the afternoon. He was glad to be busy for he felt very badly indeed about having no valentines to send. All the children to whom he had planned to send valentines had sent valentines to him the year before. The children were his loved playmates and he knew that Valentine's Day was the holiday for telling one's love and friendships.

He did not let his dear grandmother know how sorry he was, though, and after a while it was five o'clock, and his mother came home. "Has Roger been a good boy?" she asked his grandmother. "As good as gold," grandma said. "He has just warmed my heart all afternoon!"

"Well, I thought he would," his mother said. "Oh, I almost forgot something, Roger. I have a surprise for you up in the attic." She went up to the attic and came back with a box in her hand. "I meant to give these to you this morning, Roger," she said. "I found them in an old trunk when I was cleaning the attic last week. They are just as good as new and much prettier than the ones in the shops now, I think. They are the valentines that I had when I was a little girl." Oh, such beautiful valentines as filled the valentine box! There were enough so that Roger could take one to every child in the neighborhood on the morning of Saint Valentine's Day. His mother had been right about these pretty, old-fashioned valentines. They were nicer than any in the toy shop. Roger spread them all out on the library table, and looked at them.

Suddenly he found out something queer about the valentines; they made him feel as if he had been playing Saint Valentine all day. Some of the valentines had cunning little paper windows that pulled out and showed tiny gold birds inside. They made Roger think of his pet canary that he had fed that morning. Some of the valentines were bordered and trimmed with gilt, and silver, and white paper lace. It made Roger think of the lace he had bought for his mother. Lots of the valentines were in the shape of hearts, or there were hearts hung from them, or hearts on them that could be pulled out and would stand alone. They made Roger think of what his dear grandmother had said, "Roger has warmed my heart all the afternoon." "Hooray for the valentine box!" Roger said as he began putting valentines in envelopes. He felt most unusually happy!

### TO DO Today:

**Draw a pink heart around all the capital letters. Underline all the nouns with pink.**  
**Draw a red heart around all the punctuation. Underline all the adjectives with red.**