

Christmas Quiz

Saint Nicholas who was a saint in Myra in the fourth century. Saint Nicholas was shy and helping the poor without disclosing his identity was no easy task. One day he climbed up the roof of a house and dropped down a purse full of money through the chimney, which landed in a girl's stocking. Probably the idea of Santa Claus giving gifts in stockings came from this.

1. On which day do people in Britain have most of their Christmas celebrations?
a) Christmas Eve b) Christmas Day b) Boxing Day

2. When was the first Christmas card published?
a) 1843 b) 1871 c) 1908

3. In which country did the tradition of Christmas cards begin?
a) Germany b) USA c) Britain

4. Who made Christmas trees popular in Britain?
a) Henry VIII
b) Queen Elizabeth
c) Queen Victoria

5. What is a Christmas Carol?
a) any song sung at Christmas time
b) a religious song sung at Christmas

6. When was the first Christmas carol written?
a) 1761 b) 1818 c) 1868

7. Which was the first Christmas carol?
a) Silent Night
b) Jingle Bells
c) O Come all ye Faithful

8. What language was this carol written in?
a) English b) French c) German

9. What do children in the UK and USA hang up for Father Christmas to put presents in?



- a) pillow case
 - b) stocking
 - c) sack
10. In England Father Christmas originally dressed in which colour clothes?
- a) Blue
 - b) red
 - c) green
11. In the UK, when does Father Christmas bring presents?
- a) December 6th
 - b) Christmas Eve
 - c) Boxing Day
12. Father Christmas is based on a real person who lived over a thousand years ago, what was his name?
- a) Saint Nicholas
 - b) Saint Peter
 - c) Saint George
13. The day after Christmas is also a holiday, it is called Boxing Day. Why?
14. Eating turkey for Christmas dinner started with Henry VIII and became popular in Britain in the 18th Century. What did people eat before?
- a) duck
 - b) goose
 - c) beef
15. Which of the following is not part of a traditional British Christmas dinner?
- a) Plum pudding
 - b) Brussel sprouts
 - c) Turkey
 - d) Brandy butter
 - e) Cream cake
16. What is an evergreen?
- a) a plant which never loses its leaves
 - b) a plant which keeps its leaves through the winter
 - c) a plant which lives for ever

People in Britain and many other countries decorate their homes for Christmas. It is traditional to use evergreen plants like: holly, ivy, mistletoe and fir. The evergreen is a symbol of continuing life through winter and the Christian idea of eternal life.

17. Which of the following evergreens was used as a winter decoration in pre-Christian Britain and was dedicated to the goddess of love?
a) holly b) mistletoe c) ivy
18. At Christmas time children often do a nativity play at school. What is a nativity play?
a) a play like a pantomime
b) a play about the birth of Jesus
c) any play done at Christmas time
19. Where was Jesus born?
a) Jerusalem b) Nazareth c) Bethlehem

How is Christmas celebrated in your country? Share your customs with the rest of your group.

Answers to Christmas Quiz

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) c
- 5) b
- 6) b
- 7) a
- 8) c
- 9) b
- 10) c
- 11) b
- 12) a
- 13) 3 possible reasons:
 - i) 800 years ago boxes were left in churches to collect money for the poor. These boxes were opened and the money given away the day after Christmas.
 - ii) Servants had to work on Christmas Day, they were given a holiday the next day and their employers gave them Christmas boxes to take home to their families.
 - iii) Rich people would box up the left over food the day after Christmas and give in to the people working on their land.
- 14) b
- 15) e
- 16) b
- 17) b
- 18) b
- 19) c