# Christmas trivia questions and answers

40 questions in 5 rounds. The answer key is on the last page.

## Round 1: Christmas movies

**1. In Home Alone (1990), which city is the McCallister family flying to when they leave Kevin behind?**

A. Rome
B. London
C. Paris
D. Miami

**2. In Elf, what is the name of Buddy's human father?**

A. Frank Cross
B. Walter Hobbs
C. Clark Griswold
D. George Bailey

**3. Kermit plays Bob Cratchit in the 1992 Muppet Christmas Carol. Which actor plays his miserly boss?**

A. Bill Murray
B. Patrick Stewart
C. Jim Carrey
D. Michael Caine

**4. In It's a Wonderful Life, what happens every time a bell rings?**

A. A wish comes true
B. An angel gets his wings
C. Santa leaves the North Pole
D. It starts to snow

**5. What gift tops Ralphie Parker's wish list in the 1983 film A Christmas Story?**

A. A bicycle
B. A sled
C. A toy train
D. A Red Ryder BB gun

**6. The Grinch lives on a mountain above which town?**

A. Bedford Falls
B. Hawkins
C. Whoville
D. Christmas Town

**7. Jack Skellington is the Pumpkin King of which town?**

A. Halloween Town
B. Christmas Town
C. Easter Town
D. Thanksgiving Town

**8. Which 1988 action film is set during a Christmas Eve party at Nakatomi Plaza?**

A. Die Hard
B. Lethal Weapon
C. Speed
D. Predator

## Round 2: Christmas songs

**9. Who released All I Want for Christmas Is You in 1994?**

A. Mariah Carey
B. Whitney Houston
C. Celine Dion
D. Christina Aguilera

**10. Which gift in the carol The Twelve Days of Christmas comes in a set of five?**

A. Five gold coins
B. Five silver bells
C. Five golden rings
D. Five turtle doves

**11. Whose recording of White Christmas is the best-selling single of all time?**

A. Frank Sinatra
B. Dean Martin
C. Nat King Cole
D. Bing Crosby

**12. Who first recorded Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, in 1958?**

A. Brenda Lee
B. Patsy Cline
C. Connie Francis
D. Peggy Lee

**13. Which duo had a hit with Last Christmas?**

A. Hall & Oates
B. Pet Shop Boys
C. Wham!
D. Tears for Fears

**14. Which song begins "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire"?**

A. White Christmas
B. The Christmas Song
C. Let It Snow!
D. Silver Bells

**15. In Frosty the Snowman, what brings Frosty to life?**

A. A magic scarf
B. A corncob pipe
C. A falling star
D. An old silk hat

**16. In which language was Silent Night first written?**

A. Latin
B. German

C. English
D. French

## Round 3: Christmas around the world

**17. Which country is usually credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition?**

A. England
B. Norway
C. Germany
D. Sweden

**18. The big spruce that stands in Trafalgar Square each December is a gift from which nation?**

A. Norway
B. Sweden
C. Denmark
D. Finland

**19. In Italy, which kindly witch brings children gifts on the eve of Epiphany?**

A. Krampus
B. La Befana
C. Baba Yaga
D. Gryla

**20. In Alpine folklore, which horned creature punishes naughty children at Christmas?**

A. La Befana
B. Belsnickel
C. Krampus
D. Jack Frost

**21. In Japan, fried chicken from which fast-food chain is a popular Christmas dinner?**

A. McDonald's
B. Burger King
C. Wendy's
D. KFC

**22. In Iceland, which monster is said to eat people who get no new clothes for Christmas?**

A. The Yule Goat
B. The Snow Troll
C. The Frost Wolf
D. The Yule Cat

**23. The poinsettia, the red Christmas plant, is native to which country?**

A. Brazil
B. Mexico
C. Spain
D. Peru

**24. In the Netherlands, how does Sinterklaas traditionally arrive each November?**

A. By steamboat
B. By sleigh
C. By train

D. By hot-air balloon

## Round 4: Food and drink

**25. Which nut is the main ingredient of marzipan?**

A. Almond
B. Hazelnut
C. Walnut
D. Pistachio

**26. What is the French name for the Yule log cake?**

A. Galette des rois
B. Croquembouche
C. Bûche de Noël
D. Tarte Tatin

**27. Which German Christmas bread is full of dried fruit and dusted with powdered sugar?**

A. Panettone
B. Lebkuchen
C. Pretzel
D. Stollen

**28. Panettone, the tall Christmas cake, comes from which Italian city?**

A. Rome
B. Naples
C. Milan
D. Venice

**29. What is hot spiced wine called in Germany?**

A. Sangria
B. Glühwein
C. Grog
D. Schnapps

**30. Which berry is made into the sauce served with Christmas turkey?**

A. Cranberry
B. Cherry
C. Raspberry
D. Blackcurrant

**31. Which small British Christmas pie is filled with dried fruit and spices?**

A. Pork pie
B. Eccles cake
C. Cornish pasty
D. Mince pie

**32. Which striped sweet, shaped like a shepherd's crook, is hung on Christmas trees?**

A. Lollipop
B. Candy cane
C. Rock candy
D. Toffee

## Round 5: Christmas mixed bag

**33. In the 1823 poem A Visit from St. Nicholas, how many reindeer pull the sleigh?**

A. Eight
B. Six
C. Nine
D. Twelve

**34. Which of these is NOT one of the reindeer named in A Visit from St. Nicholas?**

A. Comet
B. Cupid
C. Rudolph
D. Vixen

**35. Who wrote A Christmas Carol, published in 1843?**

A. Mark Twain
B. Charles Darwin
C. Charles Dickens
D. Lewis Carroll

**36. What is the name of Scrooge's dead business partner in A Christmas Carol?**

A. Bob Cratchit
B. Jacob Marley
C. Mr. Fezziwig
D. Tiny Tim

**37. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was created in 1939 for which US department store?**

A. Macy's
B. Sears
C. Gimbels
D. Montgomery Ward

**38. Congress made Christmas Day a federal holiday in which year?**

A. 1776
B. 1863
C. 1914
D. 1870

**39. In The Twelve Days of Christmas, what kind of tree is the partridge in?**

A. An apple tree
B. A pear tree
C. A fir tree
D. A cherry tree

**40. Under which plant with white berries do people kiss at Christmas?**

A. Mistletoe
B. Holly
C. Ivy
D. Laurel

# Answer key

## Round 1: Christmas movies

1. C. Paris (In the sequel they fly to Miami while Kevin lands in New York.)
2. B. Walter Hobbs (James Caan plays him, a children's book publisher in New York.)
3. D. Michael Caine
4. B. An angel gets his wings (Clarence the angel finally earns his wings at the end of the film.)
5. D. A Red Ryder BB gun (Everyone tells him: "You'll shoot your eye out.")
6. C. Whoville
7. A. Halloween Town (From Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993).)
8. A. Die Hard (Bruce Willis plays New York cop John McClane.)

## Round 2: Christmas songs

9. A. Mariah Carey
10. C. Five golden rings
11. D. Bing Crosby (Irving Berlin wrote the song for the 1942 film Holiday Inn.)
12. A. Brenda Lee (She was 13 years old when she recorded it.)
13. C. Wham! (George Michael wrote it and played every instrument on the record.)
14. B. The Christmas Song (Mel Tormé and Bob Wells wrote it on a hot summer day in 1945.)
15. D. An old silk hat
16. B. German (Stille Nacht was first sung in Oberndorf, Austria, in 1818.)

## Round 3: Christmas around the world

17. C. Germany
18. A. Norway (It is a thank-you for Britain's help during the Second World War, sent every year since 1947.)
19. B. La Befana
20. C. Krampus
21. D. KFC (It goes back to a KFC advertising campaign in Japan in 1974.)
22. D. The Yule Cat (In Icelandic it is called Jólakötturinn.)
23. B. Mexico (It is named after Joel Poinsett, the first US minister to Mexico.)
24. A. By steamboat (The story says his boat sails from Spain.)

## Round 4: Food and drink

25. A. Almond
26. C. Bûche de Noël
27. D. Stollen
28. C. Milan
29. B. Glühwein (It is sold at Christmas markets all over Germany.)
30. A. Cranberry
31. D. Mince pie
32. B. Candy cane

## Round 5: Christmas mixed bag

33. A. Eight (Rudolph came later, in 1939.)
34. C. Rudolph
35. C. Charles Dickens

36. B. Jacob Marley

37. D. Montgomery Ward (Copywriter Robert L. May wrote the story for a free children's booklet.)

38. D. 1870 (The same 1870 law also made New Year's Day, Independence Day and Thanksgiving holidays.)

39. B. A pear tree

40. A. Mistletoe