



The Christmas Guru's Trivia Quiz

By Carol G. Stratton

Do you know a friend who plays Christmas music all year and takes down the tree in May? When she serves you coffee at her house, do all the mugs resemble the holidays? Have your friend take this test to see her Christmas knowledge. I've got a quiz to stump even the most hardcore Christmas gals.

questions

- 1) What famous cracker was introduced to children for Christmas in 1902?
- 2) How many gifts were given in the song, The Twelve Days of Christmas?
- 3) What famous five Christmas songs were written by prominent Jewish songwriters?
- 4) Which state first recognized Christmas as an official holiday?
- 5) Where is our official Christmas tree located?
- 6) What is the legend of the poinsettia?
- 7) What Christmas carol played an important part in World War I?
- 8) What famous department store invented what character in the 1930's to promote sales?
- 9) What is the "Goose Club"?
- 10) Why do we hang stockings on the mantel on Christmas Eve?
- 11) Was it ever illegal to celebrate Christmas in this country?
- 12) What year and why was only the top light lit on the national Christmas tree?
- 13) How many times a minute are Visa cards used during the Christmas buying season?
- 14) Name five Christmas towns in America.

answers

- 1) Barnum Animal Crackers.
- 2) 364 gifts.
- 3) "White Christmas," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!" "Silver Bells," "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch."
- 4) Alabama, in 1836.
- 5) In King's Canyon National Park in California. The sequoia called the General Grant is over 300 feet high.
- 6) Legend has it that a little Mexican boy was unhappy he didn't have a gift for Christ. He picked some weeds which miraculously turned into a brilliant star-like flower. The flowers are named for the American ambassador to Mexico, R.J. Poinsett, who sent the native Mexican flowers to South Carolina in 1825.
- 7) In 1914 a truce was called between the American and Germans as German soldiers played Silent Night. The soldiers exchanged greetings and no fighting occurred for a day or two.
- 8) Montgomery Wards copywriter man Robert L. May invented Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer as a coloring book give away in 1939. He modeled the story after his own life, being teased a lot as he was small and shy.
- 9) The "Goose Club" was instituted in England by pubs for working class people to save up for a Christmas Goose like the Christmas Clubs banks offer.
- 10) Legend has it that a poor widower had lost all his money and had no dowry for his three grown daughters. St. Nick heard about this and on Christmas Eve while the young womens' stockings hung on the mantel to dry, he road by, and tossed gold coins down the chimney. The coins landed in their stockings and they had their dowries for marriage.
- 11) Yes, from 1650-1689 in Boston, lawbreakers paid out five shilling fines.
- 12) In 1979 only one ornament was lit in order to honor the Americans taken hostage in Iran.
- 13) 5,320 times a minute.
- 14) Christmas, Arizona; Christmas, Florida; Santa Claus, Arizona; Santa Claus, Indiana; Noel, Missouri.

scoring

- 14-10 correct:** You truly are the Christmas Guru.
- 9- 7 correct:** You love Christmas but need to bone up on your Christmas knowledge.
- 6- 2 correct:** Maybe you need to visit a local Christmas pageant or the North Pole for remedial education.

2- 0 correct: Just look for the coal in your stocking.

Sources: [christmastriviawebsite](#), [corsinet.com-braincandy](#), [freehostia.com/triviag](#), [christmascelebrations.com/trivia](#), [christmaslore.com](#), [thehistorychannel.com](#), [holidayparties.com](#).