TRIVIA PANDA

Christmas Pub Quiz Pack

25 festive questions in three rounds. Multiple choice, with fun facts for the host.

Round	Theme	Questions
1	Warm-up	8
2	Festive Favourites	8
3	Brain Teasers	9
	Total	**25**

What is in this pack

Question pages to read aloud, with four multiple-choice options for each question.

Host answer key with a fun fact for every answer. Keep this page to yourself.

Team answer sheet. Print one per team.

Host scorecard for up to ten teams.

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How to run the quiz

About 50 minutes for 25 questions, plus marking.

1. Print one team answer sheet per team, and the host scorecard and answer key for yourself.

2. Teams of two to six work best. Ask teams to write a team name at the top of their sheet.

3. Read each question and all four options aloud, then pause about 20 seconds. Teams write the letter A, B, C or D.

4. After each round, teams swap sheets with a neighbouring team. Read the answers aloud from the host answer key. One point for each correct answer.

5. Add up the round scores on the scorecard. Read out the leaderboard between rounds to keep it exciting.

6. If teams tie at the end, use the tiebreaker: the closest number to the right answer wins.

Host tips

Read the question twice. Say the round and question number each time. Do not let teams use phones. Read the fun fact after each answer: it is where the quiz gets its chatter.

Tiebreaker question

Read this only if teams are level at the end. The closest answer wins.

In what year was the first commercial Christmas card produced? Closest year wins.

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Round 1: Warm-up

Gentler festive questions to get everyone started.

1. Which character in A Christmas Carol says "God bless us, every one"?

- **A** Bob Cratchit
- **B** Scrooge
- **C** Fezziwig
- **D** Tiny Tim

2. In The Twelve Days of Christmas, how many gold rings are given on the fifth day?

- **A** Five
- **B** Seven
- **C** Four
- **D** Six

3. Which evergreen plant with prickly leaves and red berries is a traditional Christmas decoration?

- **A** Ivy
- **B** Holly
- **C** Yew
- **D** Laurel

4. In the Nativity story, in which town was Jesus born?

- **A** Nazareth
- **B** Jericho
- **C** Bethlehem
- **D** Jerusalem

5. Which actor plays Buddy in the 2003 film Elf?

- **A** Will Ferrell
- **B** Steve Carell
- **C** Adam Sandler
- **D** Jim Carrey

6. In the Nativity story, which angel tells Mary that she will have a son?

- **A** Raphael
- **B** Uriel
- **C** Michael
- **D** Gabriel

7. Robert L. May created Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer in 1939 while working as a copywriter for which company?

- **A** Montgomery Ward
- **B** F. W. Woolworth
- **C** Macy's
- **D** Sears, Roebuck and Co.

8. Which queen introduced a Christmas tree at a children's party in 1800, an early step in the custom reaching Britain?

- **A** Queen Adelaide
- **B** Queen Anne
- **C** Queen Charlotte
- **D** Queen Victoria

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Round 2: Festive Favourites

Carols, customs and Christmas around the world.

9. The tune used for "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" was adapted by William H. Cummings from an 1840 Festgesang by which composer?

- **A** Felix Mendelssohn
- **B** George Frideric Handel
- **C** Johann Sebastian Bach
- **D** Joseph Haydn

10. In Sicily, how many kinds of fish are traditionally served on Christmas Eve?

- **A** 5
- **B** 15
- **C** 9
- **D** 12

11. In the film Die Hard, in which building does the Christmas party take place?

- **A** Empire State Building
- **B** Nakatomi Plaza
- **C** Trump Tower
- **D** Wayne Tower

12. In Italy, which gift-bringer arrives on the eve of Epiphany?

- **A** Babbo Natale
- **B** La Befana
- **C** Père Noël
- **D** Gesù Bambino

13. In A Christmas Carol, what is the name of Scrooge's dead business partner?

- **A** Bob Cratchit
- **B** Mr Fezziwig
- **C** Fred
- **D** Jacob Marley

14. Which country gives London the Christmas tree that stands in Trafalgar Square each year?

- **A** Sweden
- **B** Finland
- **C** Norway
- **D** Denmark

15. Which saint is credited with popularising nativity scenes from 1223, the year of the first Nativity reenactment at Greccio, Italy?

- **A** Francis of Assisi
- **B** Saint Ambrose
- **C** Saint Nicholas
- **D** Saint Boniface

16. Who wrote the song White Christmas?

- **A** Irving Berlin
- **B** Bing Crosby
- **C** George Gershwin
- **D** Cole Porter

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Round 3: Brain Teasers

The hard ones. Expect arguments.

17. Which illustrator drew a new image of Santa Claus every year from 1863?

- **A** Haddon Sundblom
- **B** Norman Rockwell
- **C** Charles Dana Gibson
- **D** Thomas Nast

18. Joseph Mohr wrote the words of "Silent Night" in 1816; which man composed its melody, first performed on Christmas Eve 1818?

- **A** Franz Schubert
- **B** Michael Haydn
- **C** Johann Strauss
- **D** Franz Xaver Gruber

19. Boston's annual Christmas tree comes from Nova Scotia as thanks for relief sent after which disaster?

- **A** The sinking of the Titanic
- **B** The Great Molasses Flood
- **C** The Great Boston Fire
- **D** The Halifax Explosion

20. Which American author's 1809 book A History of New York is credited with Anglicising Sinterklaas into "Santa Claus"?

- **A** James Fenimore Cooper
- **B** Clement Clarke Moore
- **C** Nathaniel Hawthorne
- **D** Washington Irving

21. In Germany, St. Nikolaus is accompanied by which companion figure?

- **A** Knecht Ruprecht
- **B** Zwarte Piet
- **C** Père Noël
- **D** Joulupukki

22. St. Nicholas, the main model for Santa Claus, was a 4th-century bishop of which city in present-day Turkey, now called Demre?

- **A** Smyrna
- **B** Myra
- **C** Ephesus
- **D** Antioch

23. In which year did Edward Hibberd Johnson create the first known electrically illuminated Christmas tree, in New York City?

- **A** 1872
- **B** 1862
- **C** 1882
- **D** 1892

24. In Provençal Christmas crèches in southern France, what are the small terracotta figurines called?

- **A** Bambinelli
- **B** Santons
- **C** Szopki
- **D** Presepi

25. In 1087, Italian merchants removed most of the bones of St. Nicholas from Myra and took them to which Italian city?

- **A** Amalfi
- **B** Naples
- **C** Genoa
- **D** Bari

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Host answer key

Keep this page to yourself.

Round 1: Warm-up

1. D Tiny Tim

Tiny Tim is the youngest son of Bob Cratchit.

2. A Five

The familiar wording "five gold rings" comes from Frederic Austin's version of 1909.

3. B Holly

Holly and ivy are paired in a well-known carol.

4. C Bethlehem

Bethlehem lies in the West Bank, south of Jerusalem.

5. A Will Ferrell

Buddy is a human raised by elves who travels to New York.

6. D Gabriel

The event is known as the Annunciation.

7. A Montgomery Ward

May created Rudolph, the 9th and lead reindeer, in 1939 while working as a copywriter for Montgomery Ward.

8. C Queen Charlotte

Queen Charlotte introduced a Christmas tree at a children's party in 1800, decades before the custom spread more widely in 1841, the year after Queen Victoria married Prince Albert.

Round 2: Festive Favourites

9. A Felix Mendelssohn

Charles Wesley's text was originally titled "Hark! How All the Welkin Rings", and the combination with Mendelssohn's tune first appeared in Hymns Ancient and Modern in 1861.

10. D 12

Sicily traditionally serves 12 kinds of fish on Christmas Eve.

11. B Nakatomi Plaza

Die Hard was released in 1988.

12. B La Befana

La Befana arrives on the eve of Epiphany; Italy's other gift-bringer is Babbo Natale.

13. D Jacob Marley

Marley's ghost appears wrapped in chains.

14. C Norway

The tree has been an annual gift since 1947.

15. A Francis of Assisi

Nativity scenes were popularized by Francis of Assisi from 1223, the year the first reenactment of the Nativity took place in Greccio, Italy.

16. A Irving Berlin

Bing Crosby's recording made it famous.

Round 3: Brain Teasers

17. D Thomas Nast

Thomas Nast drew a new Santa annually from 1863, and advertisers then standardized the image in the 1920s.

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18. D Franz Xaver Gruber

The carol was first performed on 24 December 1818 at the Nikolauskirche in Oberndorf, and its first English translation appeared in a Methodist hymnal in 1871.

19. D The Halifax Explosion

Boston's tree is from Nova Scotia, thanking Halifax relief after the 1917 explosion.

20. D Washington Irving

Washington Irving's 1809 History of New York Anglicised the Dutch name Sinterklaas, which Dutch settlers had brought to 17th-century New Amsterdam.

21. A Knecht Ruprecht

German gift-bringers include the Weihnachtsmann and St. Nikolaus, who is accompanied by Knecht Ruprecht.

22. B Myra

He was a 4th-century Greek Christian bishop of Myra, and his vandalised sarcophagus can still be seen in St. Nicholas Church there.

23. C 1882

Edward Hibberd Johnson created the first known electrically illuminated Christmas tree in New York City in 1882.

24. B Santons

Provençal crèches in southern France use santons, which are terracotta figurines, while Italy has Neapolitan, Genoese and Bolognese presepi.

25. D Bari

Bari's Basilica di San Nicola now holds most of his bones, while Venetian sailors later took the remaining fragments to Venice during the First Crusade.

Tiebreaker

1843

Sir Henry Cole produced the first commercial Christmas card in London in 1843.

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Team answer sheet

Write the letter A, B, C or D for each question.

Team name: _____

Round 1	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
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7	
8	
Score	

Round 2	
9	
10	
11	
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13	
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16	
Score	

Round 3	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
Score	

Tiebreaker answer: _____

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Host scorecard

Write each team's round score, then the total.

Team	R1	R2	R3	Total	Tiebreak

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