

The Great Big Thornton Christmas Quiz

Christmas Films



01. The film Miracle on 34th Street was released in 1947, but who starred as Kris Kringle in the 1994 version?
02. How old is the character Kevin McCallister in Home Alone 1?
03. According to 1946's Christmas classic It's Wonderful Life, what happens every time a bell rings?
04. In Love Actually, name the British boy band Billy Mack is competing against for Christmas Number One?
05. Die Hard takes place on Christmas Eve - but in which city?
06. Which US former President makes a cameo in Home Alone 2?
07. Name the four principal stars of the 2006 festive romcom The Holiday
08. What is the name of Will Ferrell's character in Elf?
09. It's a Wonderful Life is regularly voted the best Christmas film of all time. But in which fictional town is the James Stewart holiday classic set?
10. In which city's suburbs do the McCallister family live in Home Alone?
11. Who is the voice of the Grinch in the 2018 film 'The Grinch'?
12. Which actor plays Ebenezer Scrooge in The Muppet Christmas Carol?
13. In which classic Christmas film does Bill Murray play TV executive Frank Cross?
14. What was the name of the little boy in The Snowman?
15. What is the name of the Grinch's dog?
16. Which Muppet Played Bob Cratchit in The Muppet's Christmas Carol?
17. Who plays the very naughty Father Christmas in Bad Santa?
18. Who starred in the title role of the Grinch, in the film 'How the Grinch stole Christmas'?
19. What does Mark Darcy have on his jumper in Bridget Jones' Diary?
20. Which Judy Garland film features the song 'Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas'?
21. Which future superhero actor starred in the 2004 movie flop "Surviving Christmas"?
22. The first film in the Die Hard series (1988) begins on which day?

23. In which classic Christmas film does Tiny Tim appear?
24. Who plays the part of the Prime Minister in the film Love Actually?
25. Which famous actor is the voice of The Conductor in the 2004 adaptation of The Polar Express?

Christmas Literature

01. Which March sister opens LM Alcott's Little Women by grumbling "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents?"
02. In Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, what do the Dursleys give Harry for Christmas?
03. In what classic novel does the protagonist set sail for a sea voyage on a cold Christmas day
04. Which character declares "Merry Christmas, one and all!" in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
05. In which children's classic is it 'always winter but never Christmas'?
06. What year was Clement C Moore's poem 'The Night Before Christmas' first published?
07. The Father Christmas Letters is written and illustrated by which famous novelist?
08. The Goblet of Fire, who did Harry end up going to the Yule Ball with on Christmas Day?
09. "Which famous writer wrote 'A Letter from Santa Claus', which he sent to his daughter, Susy Clemens?"
10. Which famous Christmas ballet features the 'Sugar Plum Fairy'?
11. Which 1846 book tells the story of a little girl selling matches on the cold streets on New Year's Eve?
12. 'The Snowman' was turned into an animated film in 1982, but who wrote the original book?
13. In the song of 'The Twelve days of Christmas', what new gift was given on the 6th day?
14. Can you name all 8 reindeer, as listed in 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'?
15. In which children's classic is it 'always winter but never Christmas'?
16. Which Beatrix Potter tale features a wedding that takes place on Christmas day?
17. Michael Morpurgo's The Best Christmas Present in the World features the discovery of an old letter from a soldier fighting in which conflict?

18. Best known for his legal thrillers, who wrote the novel "Skipping Christmas"?
19. Better known for his rhymes about cats, who wrote the poem "The Cultivation of Christmas Trees"?
20. Which is the first animal to be mentioned in the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas"?
21. "The Mistletoe Murder and other stories" is a collection of four mysteries from which female writer?
22. What is the title of the 1972 play by Alan Ayckbourn where each act is set on successive Christmas Eve parties at different couples' houses?
23. In which country was Dylan Thomas' "A Child's Christmas" set?
24. Which crime writer wrote the collection of short stories called "The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding"?
25. Who wrote the fairy tale "The Snow Queen"?

Christmas Television & Radio

01. In which decade was the first televised Christmas address from a British monarch?
BONUS: who gave the address?
02. Which celebrity won the first ever Strictly Come Dancing in December 2004?
03. Who was killed off in 2012's Downton Abbey's Christmas special cliff-hanger?
04. The Snowman was shown on TV for the first time on Boxing Day of which year?
05. Which British monarch delivered the first ever Christmas message?
06. Which Doctor made his debut in the show's 2005 festive special called The Christmas Invasion?
07. In 'Vicar of Dibley: The Christmas Lunch Incident' (1996), the vicar reluctantly accepts invitations to too many Christmas dinners – How many Christmas dinners did Geraldine have?
08. The 2000 Christmas show 'Victoria Wood with All the Trimmings' ended with a musical finale centred around which female politician?
09. In the 2012 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas special, 'Mammy Christmas', Agnes is disappointed to discover that the nativity play has been cancelled and decides to stage her own. Which role does Mrs Brown play?

10. Which member of 'The Royle Family' was born on Christmas Day?
11. Who got married in the 2015 Christmas Special of 'Downton Abbey', which was also the grand finale?
12. In which year did 'Christmas with Morecambe and Wise' feature Eric Morecambe playing a strange version of Grieg's Piano Concerto before informing André Previn that he was playing "All the right notes but not necessarily in the right order"?
13. In the 2003 'Absolutely Fabulous' Christmas special entitled 'Cold Turkey', Patsy is rushed to hospital and Edina is informed that 'Miss Stone has died.' In fact, it was not Patsy who had died but her sister. Who played Patsy's sister?
14. In a December 2002 Friends episode, Chandler is forced to work away from home for Christmas, although he quits his job and goes back to Monica after a female co-worker makes a pass at him. In which US city had he been working?
15. 'To the Manor Born' revisited our screens for a Christmas special in 2007 where Richard and Audrey made plans to celebrate a special wedding anniversary. Which anniversary was it?
16. At the end of 1999, a 'Dinnerladies' episode was broadcast that was named after an important word that Bren couldn't pronounce. What was it?
17. Who proposes to who in the 2008 Gavin And Stacey Christmas special?
18. Carols from King's College has been a regular fixture of broadcasting on radio and TV every Christmas for many, many decades. But where is King's College?
19. Which member of The Simpsons family delivered Channel 4's annual alternative Christmas message in 2004?
20. On Christmas Day 2003, the final Christmas special of which show was aired, called "Sleepless in Peckham"?
21. Which celebrity won Strictly come Dancing 2020?
22. What musical number did a group of BBC presenters perform in the 1977 "Morecambe and Wise" special?
23. What was televised for the first time on Christmas Eve 1948?
24. What accompanied the Queen's Christmas message in 1982 for the first time?
25. Who appears as Dr Who's companion in the 2006 Christmas special, "The Runaway Bride"?

Christmas Music

01. Which Christmas hit originally released in 1984 has been no.1 in the UK charts three times?
02. Cliff Richard had his 12th number one hit with his sing-along Christmas classic Mistletoe and what?
03. Harry Belafonte (1956) and Boney M (1978) both had a Christmas No.1 hit with which song?
04. Which group sang "Don't leave me alone like this, don't say it's the final kiss" in their bell-tolling Christmas no.1?
05. What comes next in Wham's Last Christmas: "Once bitten and twice shy, I keep my distance..."
06. How many gifts in were given in 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', Christmas carol?
07. Which band beat 2009's X Factor winner Joe McElderry to the Christmas no.1 following a successful campaign that started on social media?
08. What is the best-selling Christmas song of all time?
09. Which song was recorded by Bing Crosby in 1943 honouring soldiers who longed to return home for Christmas?
10. In Band Aid's 1980's version of 'Do They Know it's Christmas', who sang the lyrics, 'But say a prayer, Pray for the other ones, At Christmas Time it's hard'?
11. Can you name two of the four Beatles songs that reached Christmas number one in the UK during the 1960s?
12. Snow is Fallin' all around me, children playing having fun, it's the season, Love and understanding are the opening lines to which song by Shakin' Stevens.
13. Who co-wrote, co-produced and sang the song 'All I Want for Christmas', released in 1994
14. In the Fairytale of New York song, what were the boys of the NYPD choir singing?
15. Which Chris Rea song includes the lyrics, 'Top to toe in tailbacks, Oh, I got red lights all around'?

16. In the lyrics to Santa Baby, what colour auto space convertible does Eartha Kitt ask Santa to bring her?
17. Which famous Christmas song was released by Brenda Lee in 1958?
18. Which famous Christmas song begins with the lyrics, 'The mood is right, the spirit's up, We're here tonight and that's enough'?
19. What is the only band in the history of the UK singles charts to have achieved Christmas number one twice with the same song?
20. Which famous Christmas song has featured in all of the following movies: Meet Me in St. Louis, The Godfather, When Harry Met Sally, and Home Alone?
21. Which famous Xmas song begins with the lyrics, 'Are you hanging up a stocking on the wall, It's the time that every Santa has a ball'?
22. True or false: Band Aid's 'Do They Know It's Christmas' and Wham's 'Last Christmas' were both released in December 1984?
23. Which pop group achieved 3 UK Christmas Number Ones during the 90s?
24. Which Xmas song includes the lines, 'Oh ho the mistletoe, hung where you can see'? [
25. Who wrote Happy Xmas (War Is Over)?

General Knowledge

01. King William I of England was crowned on Christmas Day 1066, where did the ceremony take place?
02. Which Soviet leader resigned on Christmas Day 1991 thus signalling the end of the USSR?
03. The first performance of which of Shakespeare's tragedies took place on Boxing Day 1606?
04. Charles Babbage was born on 26th December 1791, what is he credited with inventing?
05. The first ever air raid on British soil took place on 24th December 1914, which English town was the target?
06. Lead singer with The Eurythmics, Annie Lennox was born on Christmas Day 1954, what was the title of their first UK number one single?
07. Which English King, often referred to as "Lackland", was born on December 24th 1166?

08. Which future Labour party leader was born Christmas Eve in 1969?
09. Known for works such as "The Caretaker" and "The Homecoming", which British playwright passed away on 24th December 2008?
10. Which scientific measurement was introduced by Anders Celsius on Christmas Day 1741?
11. For which invention did Thomas Edison file a patent on 24th December 1877?
12. Born on Boxing Day 1891, who was the author of the controversial novel "Tropic of Cancer"?
13. Famous for not wanting to work with children and animals, which actor died on Christmas Day 1946?
14. Which future hotelier and great-grandfather of Paris was born on 25th December 1887?
15. Which river was famously crossed by Washington and his troops on Christmas night 1776, surprising the opposition forces on the other side?
16. Bass player Noel Redding was born on Christmas Day in 1945, with which group is he mostly associated?
17. Which member of the "Rat Pack" died on 25th December 1995?
18. Which future Egyptian President and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize was born on 25th December 1918?
19. Which British colony surrendered to Japanese troops on Christmas Day 1941?
20. Known as the "Godfather of Soul", which R&B artist passed away on Christmas Day 2006?
21. Who resigned as President of the Soviet Union on Christmas night 1991?
22. Which British physicist, responsible for formulating the laws of motion, was born on Christmas Day 1642?
23. On which Caribbean island was Columbus' ship "Santa Maria" run aground on Christmas Day 1492?
24. Known for his irreverent radio and TV shows which British DJ was born on 25th December 1944?
25. For which TV soap did actress Noele Gordon, born 25th December 1919, gain fame?
26. Famous for his "old tramp" routine which star of the silent screen passed away on Christmas Day 1977?
27. What is the name of the traditional Italian Christmas cake?

28. What is the star sign of a person born on 25th December?
29. Which elusive piece of technology was the most popular Christmas gift in 2006?
30. 26th December is known as Boxing Day and which saint's day?
31. Who invented the Christmas cracker?
32. True or False; if you add together all of the gifts in the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', you get 363 gifts
33. How many Scrabble points for the word 'Christmas'?
34. What is Frosty the Snowman's nose made of?
35. How do you say Merry Christmas in Spanish?
36. How many candles should go on an advent wreath?
37. Which president was the first to decorate the White House Christmas tree?
38. In what year was 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickson published? a)1799 b)1801 c)1837 d)1843
39. What is the name of Scrooge's dead business partner?
40. Which ocean is Christmas Island situated in?
41. Which continent does Christmas dinner favourite, the turkey, originate from?
42. One of the most popular Christmas toys of 1971, who or what, 'wobble but don't fall down'?
43. What country has the tradition of filling children's clogs with candy and treats on December 5th?
44. The most popular toy of 1980 was actually designed by a professor of architecture in Budapest to teach his students about spatial awareness. What is it called?
45. In which Pacific Ocean island nation is Father Christmas known as Santa-san?
46. Which UK monarch delivered the first Christmas Broadcast to the BBC in 1932
47. Which department store released a Christmas TV advertisement in 2015 featuring a young girl looking at the moon through a telescope?
48. Which country is largest exporter of Christmas trees?
49. What is the chemical formula of snow?
50. What Christmas item takes its name from the old French word 'estincelle' meaning spark?

51. Which US president banned Christmas trees from the White House?
52. What is Santa called in France?
53. Postmen in Victorian England were commonly called what?
54. Balsam, Douglas, Fraser, and Noble are all types of what?
55. What is the capital city of Christmas Island?
56. What popular Christmas toy is actually based on a 20th-century political caricature?
57. What do traditional Ukrainians put on their Christmas tree for good luck?
58. What colour are mistletoe berries?
59. How many tips does a snowflake have?
60. On what day of the week does Advent commence?
61. In which country is Father Christmas known as Babbo Natale?
62. What do you call a group of people who go from door to door singing Christmas songs?
63. Which Christmas product did Sir Henry Cole produce in 1843?
64. What Christmas product incorporates a silver strip that features a compound known as silver fulminate?
65. Stars, needle, plate, dendrite, column, lacy, and capped column are the six main types of what?
66. What ornaments do elves have on their shoes?
67. What gifts did the wise men give Jesus on his birthday?
68. Which country donates the Christmas tree for London's Trafalgar Square?
69. Before Christianity what was the name of the winter festival celebrated by the Romans?
70. 'Wassailing' is the old tradition that is now more commonly known as what?
71. True or false: Iceland has 13 Santas that visit throughout December?
72. What does the shape of a candy cane represent?

73. From which country does the tradition of the Upside Down Christmas Tree originate?
74. What is the old Germanic term for the winter festival?
75. Children in what country leave out Pan de Pascua (sponge cake with fruit, ginger, and honey) for Santa Claus?

76. How many days are there between Boxing Day, otherwise known as St. Stephen's Day, and New Year's Day (not counting Boxing Day or New Year's Day)?
77. What job did Jesus' father Joseph do?
78. What guided the Three Wise Men to the birthplace of Jesus?
79. Which Christmas song repeats the lyrics, 'O come, let us adore Him'?
80. What type of play, beginning with the letter 'N', is performed by children at Christmastime?
81. How many different types of birds are mentioned in the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' song?
82. Which popular Christmas song begins with the lyrics, 'Oh the weather outside is frightful but the fire is so delightful...'?
83. In the Children's story 'The Snowman', who gives a scarf to a young boy?
84. What are the names of the two burglars in the movie 'Home Alone'?
85. How is the snow described as being in the Christmas song 'Good King Wenceslas'?
86. What type of fruit tree is mentioned in the Twelve Days of Christmas song?
87. What was the first Christmas song broadcast from space: a) The First Noel, b) Jingle Bells, c) Let It Snow?
88. There are 365 days in a year. What number day is Christmas Day? [359]
89. Which popular Christmas beverage is also called "milk punch"?
90. Name two of three other popular names for Santa Claus?
91. Which Christmas song contains the lyric "Everyone dancing merrily in the new old-fashioned way"?
92. In the movie Elf, what was the first rule of The Code of Elves?
93. Visions of which food danced in children's heads as they slept in the poem "'Twas The Night Before Christmas"?
94. Who wrote, "Christmas doesn't come from a store, maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more"?
95. What is the name of George Bailey's guardian angel in It's A Wonderful Life? [
96. What was the first company that used Santa Claus in advertising?
97. Which famous Christmas poem was written by Clement Clark Moore?
98. By what title was the song Jingle Bells originally released?

99. What is the name of the tiny Pacific island that is first to celebrate Christmas?

100. Which song repeats the catchy lyrics, 'pa rum pum pum pum'?

CHRISTMAS ANAGRAMS

All the clues lead to items that are associated with Christmas.

1 CONGRESS LIAR (5,7)

2 CAN ASSAULT (5,5)

3 REFRESHED ERUDITE LONDONER

(6,3,3,4,8)

4 DRASTIC CHARMS (9,4)

5 IN THE GLINTS (6,5)

6 ENJOY MAD SHARP (4,3,6)

7 UNREADY CABS (6,5)

8 GAP PAWN RIPPER (8,5)

9 I'M A POET MADMEN (9,4)

10 SMART HERETICS (9,4)

11 OFF THE SANE PEST (5,2,7)

12 IN ACTION SLASH (5,8)

13 VICARS THEMES (9,3)

14 HONESTY WARMS FONT (6,3,7)

15 TINY PAY VITAL (8,4)

16 ROBUST SPURLESS (7,7)

17 STREAKY ROUT (5,6)

18 MUDDLING PUP (4,7)

19 WITH FT LENGTH (7,5)

20 BE THE HELM (9)

Celebrity Santa's - Name the 10 celebrities

