MEGAN MORAN QUIZZES

Funny Christmas trivia

20 multiple-choice questions from The Ultimate Christmas Quiz Book by Megan Moran. Read each question and its four options out, and teams write down a letter. The host's answer sheet (with a fact to share for each answer) and a team answer sheet to print for every table come after the questions.

Funny Christmas trivia

1. In Britain, what do people call an ugly Christmas sweater? A) A Christmas jumper B) A Christmas woolly C) A Christmas cozy D) A Christmas tunic
2. Some American families hide a special ornament on the tree, calling it a German custom, yet in a YouGov poll 91% of Germans said they had never heard of it. What is it? A) A pretzel B) A sausage C) A pickle D) A potato
3. In 1856, a town in which US state picked the name Santa Claus after the post office rejected its first choice, Santa Fe? A) Ohio B) Indiana C) Kentucky D) Illinois
4. Some Czech families buy a live carp a day or two before Christmas Eve dinner. Where is it famously kept until then? A) The kitchen sink B) A washing machine C) The fridge D) The bathtub
5. Many Catalan nativity scenes hide a little figure called the caganer. What is he usually shown doing? A) Pooping B) Fast asleep C) Playing the bagpipes D) Juggling oranges
6. Which classical work is performed so often in Japan each December that it has become a year-end tradition, sometimes with choirs of thousands? A) Vivaldi's The Four Seasons B) Holst's The Planets C) Beethoven's Ninth Symphony D) Ravel's Boléro
7. If you add up every gift in "The Twelve Days of Christmas," counting each day's repeated gifts, how many are there? A) 78 B) 144 C) 300 D) 364
8. Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean got its name because of what? A) It is shaped like a Christmas tree B) A ship's captain sailed past it on Christmas Day C) Its forests are full of wild holly D) It was given to a king as a Christmas gift
9. Sweden's giant straw Yule goat in the town of Gävle, first built in 1966, is famous for what? A) Being nibbled by real goats B) Floating across the harbor C) Being burned or wrecked by vandals in many years D) Being knitted from wool
10. Which of these is the English name of one of Iceland's mischievous Yule Lads? A) Sausage Swiper B) Pudding Pincher C) Cookie Crumbler D) Mitten Muncher
11. Every Christmas Eve at 3 p.m., millions of Swedes sit down to watch what on TV? A) The king's Christmas speech B) A ski-jumping contest C) A reindeer race D) A Disney cartoon special named after Donald Duck
12. How are mistletoe seeds usually spread to new trees? A) Blown by the wind B) Carried by birds that eat the berries C) Floating down rivers D) Buried by squirrels
13. In 2008, the town of Bethel, Maine, built a record-breaking snowwoman more than 120 feet tall. What did she have for eyelashes? A) Hockey sticks B) Canoe paddles C) Skis D) Snow shovels
14. In 1647, anger over England's ban on Christmas boiled over into the "Plum Pudding Riots" in which cathedral city? A) York B) Bath C) Durham D) Canterbury

15. In 1966, a New York TV station filled hours of Christmas Eve airtime by showing what? A) A log burning in a fireplace B) A spinning snow globe C) A tree's blinking lights D) An empty sleigh
16. In 1950, a Seattle shopping mall put up a record-breaking Christmas tree more than 200 feet tall. What kind of tree was it? A) Blue spruce B) Scotch pine C) Fraser fir D) Douglas fir
17. Every December 23, the city of Oaxaca, Mexico, holds a famous contest for scenes carved out of what? A) Pumpkins B) Radishes C) Ice D) Soap
18. What does Krampus, the horned beast of Alpine Christmas folklore, traditionally carry to swat naughty children? A) A giant candy cane B) A feather duster C) A bundle of birch branches D) A wooden spoon
19. Each January, Manitou Springs, Colorado, holds a "Great" contest in which people do what with fruitcakes? A) Throw them as far as they can B) Stack them into a castle C) Feed them to goats D) Bury them in a time capsule
20. The gingerbread house that set a world record in Bryan, Texas, in 2013 contained roughly how many calories? A) About 360,000 B) About 36 million C) About 3.6 million D) About 36,000

Answer sheet

For the host. The facts in gray are extras to read out after each answer.

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1. **A) A Christmas jumper**
   Since 2012, the charity Save the Children has held a Christmas Jumper Day each December to raise money for children.
2. **C) A pickle**
   Woolworth's began importing glass Christmas ornaments in 1890, and glass vegetable ornaments were being shipped in from France by 1892.
3. **B) Indiana**
   Children's letters to Santa mailed to the town have been answered since at least 1914; today volunteers called Santa's Elves write the replies.
4. **D) The bathtub**
   Many Czechs also tuck a carp scale into their wallet, believed to keep money in it all year.
5. **A) Pooping**
   Modern versions are made to look like celebrities, athletes and politicians, and children often hunt for him in the scene.
6. **C) Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**
   It was first performed in Japan in 1918 by German prisoners of war at the Bando camp, in what is now the city of Naruto.
7. **D) 364**
   The "four calling birds" were originally "colly birds," using an old dialect word meaning black, so they were blackbirds.
8. **B) A ship's captain sailed past it on Christmas Day**
   The island is home to tens of millions of red crabs, and roads close during their yearly march to the sea.
9. **C) Being burned or wrecked by vandals in many years**
   The very first goat went up in flames on New Year's Eve 1966, just weeks after it was built.
10. **A) Sausage Swiper**
    Icelandic children leave a shoe on the windowsill, and naughty ones may find a potato in it.
11. **D) A Disney cartoon special named after Donald Duck**
    Shown every Christmas Eve since 1960, it drew about 4.5 million viewers in 2020, the most-watched show in Sweden that year.
12. **B) Carried by birds that eat the berries**
    The sticky seeds are often pooped out or wiped off a bird's beak onto a branch, where their natural glue hardens.
13. **C) Skis**
    She was named Olympia after Maine senator Olympia Snowe and stood 122 feet 1 inch tall, a world record for a snow figure.
14. **D) Canterbury**
    Riots broke out after the city's Puritan mayor banned church services on Christmas Day.
15. **A) A log burning in a fireplace**
    The original footage was filmed at Gracie Mansion, the official home of New York City's mayor.
16. **D) Douglas fir**
    Guinness World Records lists the tree at Seattle's Northgate mall as the tallest cut Christmas tree on record.
17. **B) Radishes**
    The carved vegetables wilt quickly, so the entries are only on display for a few hours before judging.
18. **C) A bundle of birch branches**
    His name is thought to come from the German word krampen, meaning "claw."

19. A) Throw them as far as they can

In 2007, eight engineers used a homemade air cannon powered by an exercise bike to launch a fruitcake 1,420 feet, the event's all-time record.

20. B) About 36 million

It covered 2,520 square feet and used 7,200 eggs, 1,800 pounds of butter and 7,200 pounds of flour.

Team answer sheet

Print one for each team. 20 questions.

Team name _____

Funny Christmas trivia

Total score _____ / 20

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