

ET4Bs Christmas Quiz 2019 (traditionally loaded with all the trimmings, *including answers*)

General knowledge

1. "It was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge" is part of the conclusion of which popular novel? **A: A Christmas Carol** (by Charles Dickens)
2. Americans are said to maximise their food consumption on Christmas Day as well as which other two recurring events (a point for each)? **A: Thanksgiving and Superbowl Sunday**. Points deducted if you said 'Day time' and 'Night time' – there's no room for sarcasm at Christmas!
3. The Stone of Scone was stolen from Westminster Abbey by Scottish students on 25th December in which 20th century year (accept 5 years either way)? **A: 1950**
4. How is the chemical 'Silver Fulminate' often utilised during a typical Christmas Lunch? **A: When pulling a cracker** (Silver Fulminate is commonly used in the strip that makes the bang). Example Christmas Cracker joke: What did the sea say to Santa when he flew over from the North Pole? Nothing, it just waved!
5. A rare geography question; in which UK country can you find a small village called Bethlehem? **A: Wales**
6. Pope Julius I (d. 352 AD) established which tradition during his lifetime? Was it (a) he harmonised the celebration of the First Day of Christmas (Dec 25th) (b) he released Two Turtle doves each Christmas as a sign of peace (c) he ordered Three French Hens (as symbols of faith hope and charity) to form the basis of Christmas lunch (in the days before turkeys were widely available to *Requiescant in Paxo*), (d) he used 4 nightingales (or 'Calling Birds') to accompany his minstrels on an annual Christmas morning service or (e) he put on Five Gold Rings, one on each finger so he could use them as knuckle-dusters if his in-laws came round at Christmas? **A: (a)** - prior to then, many Christians celebrated Christmas Day on 6 Jan, and some still give greater recognition to this later date.
7. What is the traditional name for Santa's alter-ego, who punishes children for misbehaviour, according to central European folklore? **A: Krampus**. His description of a half-goat half-demon figure reminds us of a few tax inspectors we used to know!
8. In Matthew's biblical description of the birth of Christ, what 4 letter word does he use to describe the visiting three wise men or kings? **A: Magi** (that is the plural term, the singular being Magus). A Magus was a member of a priestly sect in ancient Persia, or perhaps a sorcerer.
9. What famous scientist born Christmas Day 1642 is credited by inventing (or significantly enhancing) the mathematical principles of calculus? **A: Sir Isaac Newton**. Like many scientists before him, Newton knew that the speed of an object (say an apple) falling from the sky increases each second, but (uniquely) decided to invent a complex mathematical explanation which could be used to describe and predict this (calculus of course has many other practical scientific uses).
10. Which takeaway food is reportedly so popular in Japan at Christmas that it often has to be ordered many days or weeks in advance. Is it (a) Domino's Pizza (b) McDonald's (c) KFC or (d) Nando's? **A: (c) KFC**. Its widespread popularity, thought to have been inspired by the Western tradition of Christmas turkey, has only developed since KFC was launched in Japan in the 1970s.

Entertainment & Music

11. Who stars in the 1988 Christmas comedy film Scrooged? **A: Bill Murray**
12. Who was the male star of the 1989 film National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation? **A: Chevy Chase**

13. Robin Hood and/or Maid Marion often appear in which traditional festive pantomime?
A: Babes in the Wood
14. Which actress made her first official appearance as the Doctor in the 2017 Dr Who Christmas special? **A: Jodie Whittaker**
15. Which 2003 Christmas-based film begins and ends with references and scenes of the Arrivals terminal at Heathrow Airport? **A: Love Actually** (with Hugh Grant's voiceover commentary saying that 'Love, actually, is all around')
16. What is the name of the eponymous 'Elf' played by Will Ferrell in the 2003 film? Is it a) Barney b) Buddy c) Busby d) Smashie or e) Nicey? **A: b) Buddy**
17. Which Christmas dessert features in the song "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"? **A: Figgy pudding**
18. What were there eight of in the song 'The Twelve Days Of Christmas'? **A: Eight Maids-a-milking**
19. Actor Brian Hibbard who appeared in Coronation St as Doug Murray in the early 1990s had previously sung on which 1983 Christmas No 1 single? **A: Only you** (sung by Brian, along with his acapella group The Flying Pickets)
20. Complete this title of a 1983 Eurythmics Top Ten hit featuring Annie Lennox, who was born 25th December 1954: Love is a....? **A: Stranger**. The video caused some controversy in the USA where, after Annie removed a curly wig to reveal short slicked back hair, some people refused to believe she was a woman (however in the UK she was already well known for her previous success with The Tourists).
21. In the popular children's song 'When Santa got stuck up the chimney' what does Santa shout? **A: You girls and boys won't get any toys if you don't pull me out.**
22. Complete the next line from Slade's classic Christmas No 1 Merry Xmas Everybody "Does your granny always tell you that the old songs are the best"....? **A: "Then she's up and Rock'n'Rolling with the rest".**
23. Put these 1970s Christmas records in the correct order they were hits (earliest first): (a) Mary's Boy Child by Boney M (b) Lonely this Christmas by Mud (c) Wonderful Christmastime by Paul McCartney and (d) I wish it could be Christmas Everyday by Wizzard? **A: Correct order: (d) (1973), (b) (1974), (a) (1978) and (c) (1979).**
24. The Scaffold's novelty song Lily the Pink was the No 1 at Christmas 1968. According to the song's lyrics, what miracle cure had Lily invented? A bonus point if you can name (Scaffold singer) Mike McGear's very famous brother? **A: Medicinal Compound** (though the claim it was 'most efficacious in every case' would probably be deemed as misrepresentation in today's politically correct climate). **Bonus: Mike McGear is of course Paul McCartney's younger brother.**
25. The promotional film for which 1971 Christmas chart topper featured Henry McGee as 'Two Ton Ted'? **A: Ernie the fastest milkman in the West** (by Benny Hill)
26. 'December will be magic again' was a minor festive hit for which superstar female artist in 1980? **A: Kate Bush**
27. "So this is Christmas" are the first words to which 1972 festive hit? **A: Happy Xmas (war is over)** (by John Lennon and Yoko Ono)
28. Sergei Prokofiev's Troika movement from his Lieutenant Kije suite formed the backdrop to which classic 1975 Christmas hit? **A: I believe in Father Christmas** (by Greg Lake)

'Ceased to be' in 2019

These are questions about famous people who sadly passed away in the last year or so.

29. Oscar winning composer Michel Legrand worked on many successful movie scores. Which tune, featured in The Thomas Crown Affair, won him an Oscar for best original song, in 1969? **A: Windmills of your mind**. The song became a Top Ten hit in the UK when sung by Noel Harrison (actor Rex Harrison's son)
30. Like most guests, Andre Previn was not afforded too much reverence in the 1971 Morecambe and Wise Christmas Special (with both Eric and Ernie calling him 'Andre

- Preview'). What was Eric's memorable response when Andre told him he was playing 'all the wrong notes' during a haphazard rendition of Grieg's Piano Concerto? **A: I am playing all the right notes, but not necessarily in the right order.**
31. Peter Tork as part of The Monkees released a single in 1967 originally called 'Randy Scouse Git'. What was the single soon renamed as, to avoid offence at the (for that time) risqué original title? **A: Alternate Title.** The original single title was a phrase apparently picked up by the Monkees' Micky Dolenz when visiting the UK and listening to the (controversial) TV show 'Till death us do part'.
 32. Gordon Banks was of course the star goalkeeper in England's (one and only) World Cup win in 1966. What event in 1972 effectively ended his first-class career? (a) a car crash (b) a skiing accident (c) a fall down the stairs at home (d) a football injury to his right knee? **A: (a) a car crash** (where he lost his sight in one eye).
 33. Salford born actor Albert Finney was Oscar nominated 5 times (sadly, winning none). For which of these film appearances was he NOT Oscar nominated? (a) Tom Jones (1963), (b) Scrooge (1970) (c) Murder on the Orient Express (1974), or (d) Erin Brockovich (2000)? **A: (b) Scrooge**
 34. Scott Walker lent his distinctively smooth baritone voice to memorable songs like 'The sun ain't gonna shine anymore' and 'No regrets'. How many brothers (including Scott) were included in The Walker Brothers' classic 1960s line up? **A: None.** The three main members weren't actually brothers, nor was any of them originally called Walker, and Scott's real surname was Engel. Legend has it the name Walker was adopted by one of the band, to create a fake-ID when under-age.
 35. Twisted Firestarter Keith Flint died suddenly in March. With which band did he find fame? **A: The Prodigy**
 36. The 2013 film 'Rush' focussed on the nail biting 1976 F1 motor racing championship conclusion between British playboy driver James Hunt and which legendary Austrian who died earlier this year? **A: Nikki Lauda** (Lauda's incredible bravery, returning to the wheel very shortly after a near fatal crash, proved in vain as Hunt pipped him to the 1976 world title). Hunt had also passed away, some 26 years earlier, in 1993.
 37. Madcap comedian Freddie Starr was a TV regular from the 1970s through to the 1990s. Complete this famous tabloid journalism headline which cemented his infamy: Freddie Starr ate....? **A: My Hamster** (Starr later said that the story was a PR stunt by Max Clifford, his publicist).
 38. Ric Ocasek was the singer, guitarist & main songwriter for US rock band The Cars. What unusual feature of their first hit single My Best Friend's Girl helped the song into the UK Top 3 in 1978? **A: It was the first picture disc single available in the UK** (there was a picture of a car printed within the vinyl of the disc itself – before that, pictures were only found on record sleeves).
 39. Spiky haired celebrity chef Gary Rhodes, who was an active and successful promoter of modern British cuisine, died suddenly last month. Complete this title of his own TV series: Rhodes around....? **A: Britain** He also fronted a number of other shows including MasterChef and New British Classics.
 40. Renowned director and presenter Jonathan Miller first came to prominence in Beyond the Fringe, the Cambridge revue which included a stellar collection of contemporary razor-sharp satirists. Name the three other main members of Beyond the Fringe, who also found national and international fame? For a bonus, in one of the show's sketches, which of the gang was turned down when applying for the role of Tarzan as he was found to have 'One Leg Too Few'? **A: Peter Cook, Dudley Moore & Alan Bennett. Bonus: Dudley Moore** played the 'leg-deficient' (i.e. one-legged) man, optimistically hoping to land the leading role in Tarzan.
 41. Australian born raconteur and TV celebrity Clive James was much admired for his wit and verbal dexterity. Was his original first name, (a) Leslie (b) Glenn (c) Reagan (d) Vivian or (e) Clive? **A: (d) Vivian** (apparently he changed it because, after Vivien Leigh played Scarlett O'Hara in Gone with the Wind, "Vivian became irrevocably a girl's name no matter how you spelled it"). Here's a couple of Clive's one-liners for

good-Christmas measure: [On Gerald Ford], [he] “was more than enough to remind you that the nuclear button was at one stage at the disposal of a man who might have either pressed it by mistake or else pressed it deliberately in order to obtain room service.” [On Joan Rivers], [her] “face hasn’t just had a lift, it’s taken the elevator all the way to the top floor without stopping”.

42. In the 1980s TV series *Tiswas*, which comedian would deliver an amusing and affectionate parody of the late botanist David Bellamy, during his occasional feature in the show ‘Compost Corner’? **A: Lennie Henry**
43. Whilst the 1981 England-Australia series will forever be known as ‘Botham’s Ashes’, his fellow cricketing legend (the recently deceased) Bob Willis also played a vital role. At which ground did Bob deliver a career-best 8-43, to skittle out the Aussies for just 111 in their second innings? **A: Headingly**. England, implausibly, won the test after being forced to ‘follow on’ from a seemingly hopeless position, and went on to win the series 3-1.
44. Legendary drummer Ginger Baker formed one third of the ‘supergroup’ Cream in the 1960s. Name the other two members of Cream (a point for each)? **A: Eric Clapton and Jack Bruce**. Ginger Baker’s real first name was Peter by the way; he was nicknamed ‘Ginger’ of course because of his shock of red hair.