

ET4Bs Christmas Quiz 2021 (questions)

Christmas-themed Entertainment (TV, Films, Theatre and Music)

1. In which festive song did Nat King Cole sing about 'Chestnuts roasting on an open fire'?
2. Caribbean based TV show *Death In Paradise* is set to air its first holiday special at Christmas 2021. Who plays the starring role of DI Neville Parker?
3. In the 2003 Christmas-themed movie *Love Actually*, which popular real life TV duo play themselves interviewing the aging rock dinosaur character Billy Mack (played by Bill Nighy)?
4. Animated film favourite *The Snowman* was shown on Channel 4 TV for the first time at Christmas of which year?
5. What is the alternative Latin title of the Christmas carol 'Oh come all ye faithful'?
6. In 'How the Grinch stole Christmas', what was wrong with the title character's heart?
7. In which Shakespeare 'comedy' play might viewers have originally seen a man dressed as a woman fall in love with a woman dressed as a man, at Christmas?
8. Complete the next line from this extract of Wham!'s classic song *Last Christmas*: "Tell me baby do you recognise me?"
9. In the popular kids song *When Santa got stuck up the chimney*, what did he have in his sack, as a result of getting stuck?
10. According to which Christmas song are we invited to "don we now our gay apparel"?
11. Who played a 'Bad Santa' in the title role of that film?
12. Which 1940's Christmas-based feel good movie is set in the town of Bedford Falls?
13. Sissy Spacek (born Christmas Day in 1949) won an Oscar playing which real life country singer in the 1980 film *Coal Miner's Daughter*?
14. Born Christmas Day 1908, Denis Charles Pratt gained fame under what name, after a 1976 TV film depicted his flamboyant lifestyle?
15. What are the names of the Two Little Boys in Rolf Harris's 1969 Christmas No 1 (a point for each)?
16. "They sold me a dream of Christmas, they sold me a silent night, they told me a fairy story, till I believed in the Israelite". Whose disillusioned view of the festive season was this?

General (yule-tidy) knowledge

17. What colour are the berries in a mistletoe plant?
18. Which of Santa's reindeer shares it's name with a female fox?
19. What is the usual name for a female turkey?
20. Which country first began the tradition of putting up Christmas trees?
21. In what 17th century year were Christmas festivities banned by Parliament, apparently on the orders of happy chappie Oliver Cromwell (accept 10 years either way)?
22. The original St Nicholas was the Bishop of Myra in the 3rd Century. In which modern day country was Myra?
23. Before the traditional Santa or Father Christmas began wearing red, which colour did he more typically wear in England?
24. Joseph, husband of Mary, does not speak directly, according to the New Testament. Is that true or false?
25. In which classic novel does The Pequod set off for a sea voyage on a 'cold Christmas' day.
26. Which Dickens character says "You'll want all day tomorrow, I suppose"?
27. Which Christmas song was the cue for all the remaining US troops and staff to evacuate Saigon in 1975?
28. Which famous silent film star died at Christmas 1977?

29. In which year did the Queen's Christmas Speech describe it as her Annus Horribilis'?
30. Which English king was crowned on Christmas Day?
31. Who is credited with the discovery of Christmas Island in 1777?
32. In which London park does a traditional Christmas swim take place at the Serpentine lake?

All about 2021 – was it as forgettable as everyone says?

These questions commemorate a few famous events and people who have passed away, over the last 12 months.

33. Which two England football players successfully *scored* in the 'Euro 2020' final penalty shootout (a point for each)?
34. In the 2021 Eurovision Song contest final, what position did the United Kingdom finish, out of the 26 finalist countries. Was it a) 20th, b) 22nd, c) 24th, or d) 26th?
35. Which building in Washington was invaded by (so-called) supporters of Donald Trump on 6th Jan, resulting in a tragic loss of 5 lives?
36. How old was Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh upon his death in April 2021: a) 97, b) 98 or c) 99?
37. In April 2021, 39 former employees had their various convictions for dishonesty quashed after the Post Office finally admitted the scale of errors likely to have arisen in its own software. What was the name of its unreliable accounting IT system, which had led directly to these wrong convictions?
38. The new £50 polymer banknote was released in June, featuring the face of which famous cryptologist (if you're rich enough to own one, points deducted if you are caught peeking!)?
39. In October the bank limit for accepting contactless payments was increased, from £45 per transaction to what new limit?
40. In April, how many European football clubs threatened initially (and unwisely) to form a breakaway super league?
41. Which comedian, who died in August, created a book called 'The Tiger who came for a Pint' (a parody on the pre-school kids book 'The Tiger who came to Tea')?
42. Late drummer Charlie Watts was known for being rather more reticent than his high-profile Rolling Stones bandmates. In the 1960s he published a cartoon entitled "*Ode to a high flying Bird*" as a tribute to which jazz saxophonist who had died in the previous decade?
43. No, no, no, no, no, no, yes, Trevor Peacock (aka Jim Trott in *The Vicar of Dibley*) sadly passed away in March. Also an accomplished musician, complete the title of this 1960s hit Trevor wrote for Herman's Hermits: Mrs Brown....?
44. Johnny Briggs passed away in February, after a varied acting career. Having joined the cast of *Coronation Street*, to play what would become his most famous role of Mike Baldwin, which married female character did Mike have an affair with in the early 1980s?
45. The late Jim Steinman who died in April, was most famous as the creative force behind many of Meatloaf's biggest hits. Complete the title of this hit he co-wrote for Bonnie Tyler in the mid-1980s: 'Holding out for...'?
46. Christopher Plummer of course starred opposite Julie Andrews in the bank holiday film favourite *The Sound of Music*. Which of these classic songs from the film did his character (Captain Von Trapp) sing in: a) My favorite things, b) Something good, or c) Sixteen going on seventeen?
47. Born in Chester in 1940, Ronald Pickup was a ubiquitous character actor, who remained active in film, TV and theatre from 1964 until his death in February 2021. In the 1973 taut suspense thriller *The day of the Jackal*, did Ronald portray: a) a document forger, b) a gunsmith, or c) a policeman?

48. Controversial record producer Phil Spector passed away in January? Which of these Beatles albums did Spector produce (at the behest of John Lennon but to the disquiet of Paul McCartney): a) The Beatles (aka 'the white album'), b) Abbey Road, or c) Let it Be?
49. Comic actress Una Stubbs passed away in August, after a distinguished near-60 year career in film, TV and theatre. A prominent role in which early-1960s Cliff Richard film helped to launch her career: a) The Young Ones, b) Summer Holiday, or c) Wonderful Life?
50. Captain Sir Tom Moore, who of course helped raise the nation's spirits during the early part of the pandemic with his heart-warming charitable efforts, sadly passed away in February (at the time he was 100 years young). A WWII veteran; was his war service mainly in: a) North Africa/Italy, b) UK/France, or c) the Far East?