

## ET4Bs Christmassy Quiz 2023

All the answers can be found at: [www.et4b.co.uk](http://www.et4b.co.uk)

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

1. In the song *Little Drummer Boy*, which gift are we told the drummer boy offers to Christ?
2. In *Doctor Who*, who began his tenure as the new Doctor in the 2005 special 'The Christmas Invasion'?
3. Complete the opening verse from the song *Winter wonderland*: 'Sleigh bells ring, are you listening, in the lane, snow is glistening...?'
4. Which festive song, made famous by Nat King Cole, might you find 'Jack Frost nipping at your nose'?
5. The character Oogie Boogie is one of the bad guys in which fantasy festive film?
6. In the film *Love Actually*, which real-life UK boy band does the singer Billy Mack (played by Bill Nighy) compete against, in a race to have the Christmas No 1 record?
7. In which festive carol is a request made for the dessert 'figgy pudding'?
8. Michael Caine starred in which festive based muppets film?
9. Complete the title of this 1963 festive novelty hit by Dora Bryan: 'All I want for Christmas is...?'
10. Natalie Wood appeared as a young (initially Santa-sceptic) child actress in the 1947 film version of *Miracle on 34th Street*? Is that true or false?
11. Which festive favourite Judy Garland song contains the lyrics 'Once again, as in olden days, happy golden days of yore'? A bonus point to name the 1943 film which made the song famous?
12. Put these Christmas No 1 novelty songs in the order in which they were initially hits (earliest first): a) Don't stop me eatin' by LadBaby, b) Long haired lover from Liverpool by Little Jimmy Osmond, c) Save your love by Renee and Renata, and d) Lily the pink by the Scaffold.
13. Setting a less frivolous tone; 'Hallelujah Noel be it heaven or hell, the Christmas we get we deserve' are the profound lyrics at the end of which 1975 hit song?
14. *Twelfth Night* is of course William Shakespeare's best known festive 'comedy'. Which of these Shakespeare quotes does NOT come from *Twelfth Night*:  
a) Better a witty fool than a foolish wit  
b) Some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon 'em  
c) If music be the food of love play on  
d) All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players
15. What is the title of Tchaikovsky's festive ballet, first performed in the 1890s, and set on Christmas Eve?
16. The popular Christmas song 'Jingle Bells' is said to have been originally written for another US holiday festival, which one?
17. In 2023, Matthew McFadyen starred in a dramatized TV account of which British MP who faked his own death in the 1970s.
18. Which Charles Dickens novel was controversially adapted for TV by the BBC in 2023 (starring amongst others, Olivia Colman, as Miss Havisham)?
19. On which saint's feast day is the story of *Good King Wenceslas* set?
20. In which popular carol are we told 'In heaven the bells are ringing'?

### Ghosts of Christmas past

The following questions reference a few historical events that happened at Christmas time, in years gone by (some more recent than others).

21. What political institution came to an end on Boxing Day 1991?
22. All-time brainiac Sir Isaac Newton was born on Christmas Day in which decade of the 17<sup>th</sup> century? An extra point if you can guess the right year.
23. Singer George Michael died prematurely, aged just 53, on Christmas Day 2016. Complete the next line from Wham!'s festive standard *Last Christmas*: 'A face on a lover with a fire in his heart....'?
24. The first manned spacecraft to reach the moon (without actually landing) happened over Christmas 1968 (that's assuming you don't believe the lunar-landing sceptics). What was the name of that 1968 mission, was it: a) Apollo 7, b) Apollo 8, c) Apollo 9 or d) Apollo 10?
25. Name the silent movie legend who passed away Christmas Day 1977?
26. On Christmas Day in which year, was William I (aka William the Conqueror) crowned King of England?

### **General Christmas-themed knowledge**

27. What, statistically, are the average chances of a White Christmas occurring in the UK each year? Is it: a) one in ten, b) one in fifteen, or c) one in twenty?
28. Which country famously donates a Christmas tree to Trafalgar Square every year?
29. What fruit might you traditionally find inside a Christmas stocking?
30. 'Marley was dead, to begin with' is the opening line of which salutary festive tale?
31. Silver Fulminate plays what part in a traditional Christmas lunch?
32. The poinsettia plant, commonly associated with Christmas, is considered to have originated from which Central American country?
33. Santa enjoys his own personal postcode HOH OHO in which country?

### **How will 2023 be remembered then?**

These questions commemorate a few famous (and infamous) events, as well as some well-known people who sadly 'shuffled off this mortal coil' (to again borrow a Shakespeare quote) in the last 12 months.

34. Who in March caused a considerable furore when controversially comparing the UK Government's immigration policy to 1930s Germany?
35. England cricketer Johnny Bairstow's was controversially dismissed at a crucial point of the second innings of the second Ashes test at Lords. How was he given out: a) bowled, b) caught, c) stumped or d) run out?
36. Charles III was formally crowned King on 6 May 2023. How many years old was the King at the date of his *coronation*?
37. Which saucy but warm-hearted 1997 film starring Robert Carlyle was rehashed as an 8-part TV mini-series in 2023?
38. 2023 TV cold war drama '*A Spy among friends*' told the story of whose defection to the USSR in the 1960s?
39. One of many actors to attain wider international recognition following the Harry Potter films, Sir Michael Gambon (who died in September) had already enjoyed a stellar TV and theatre career from the 1960s onwards. What was the name of the 1986 TV serial, written by Denis Potter, which provided Michael with a stand-out BAFTA-winning leading role as 'Philip Marlow'?
40. Former Pogues front man Shane MacGowan was often alluded to ironically as a 'drinker with a writing problem', before his very recent demise. Which famous British 20<sup>th</sup> century politician is accredited with saying that the Royal Navy's best traditions are 'rum, sodomy and the lash'; a phrase which was used by the Pogues as the title of their 1985 second album?

41. It would be easier to list the famous people Michael Parkinson (who died in August) *didn't* interview, than those he did. Complete this quote from Michael, thinking back on one infamous interview: 'All the wonderful interviews in my show - yet I'll probably be remembered for that bloody.....'?
42. Actor Matthew Perry 'ceased to be' at a young age, having died suddenly in October aged only 54. After *Friends*, between 2015 and 2017 Matthew starred in a remake of another (originally early 1970s) sitcom, about two middle-aged men thrown together uncomfortably after their individual marriage break ups. What was the name of the remade sitcom?
43. At the other end of the age spectrum, crooner Tony Bennett enjoyed rather a good innings, passing away in July aged 97. Which of these other famous locations is NOT mentioned in the lyrics of *I left my heart in San Francisco*, the song which became his signature tune: a) Manhattan, b) London, c) Paris, or d) Rome?
44. Musician Anna Mae Bullock, who passed away in May aged 83, found international fame under what stage name?
45. Jerry Springer, who died in April aged 79, held the dubious distinction of creating (or significantly enhancing) so called *Trash TV*, by directly encouraging conflict between rival chat show guests (the show started in the early 1990s, and the style is still copied today). Complete the title of the musical theatre version of the show (very loosely based on it) which opened in 2003? Jerry Springer: .....
46. US actress Raquel Welch sadly passed away in February. Name the 1966 Hammer film from which a famous poster of Raquel, in a fur/leather bikini, turned her into an international sex symbol?
47. Legendary songwriter Burt Bacharach passed away in February. Which of these easy listening standards was NOT jointly composed by Burt together with his main songwriting partner Hal David: a) Magic moments, b) Raindrops keep falling on my head, c) That's amore, d) I'll never fall in love again, e) Anyone who had a heart, or, f) (They long to be) Close to you?
48. 'Flies are in your pea soup baby, they're waving at me' are some of the lyrics of a famous party standard song. Name the song, and its singer who died in January (a point for each)?
49. Sir Les Patterson was one of the alter-egos of which comedian who passed away in April?
50. Terry Venables who died in November, or 'El Tel' as he was dubbed, after trying football management in Spain, had a number of business interests outside football. What was the name of the 1970s private detective TV series starring Nicholas Ball, which he co-created with author Gordon Williams?
51. Margaret Lake, who died in March, found prominence as a regular TV astrologist under what pseudonym?
52. Oft maligned Everton FC chairman and theatre entrepreneur Bill Kenwright passed away in October. In which TV programme did he initially make his name, playing character Gordon Clegg from 1968 onwards (and intermittently, to 2012)?
53. 'And this is me' was the personal catchphrase of which impressionist who died in September, having made his name imitating the catchphrases and idiosyncrasies of other well-known faces?
54. David McCallum who died in September, was probably best known for playing the mysterious agent Illya Kuryakin in 1960s TV spy series *The Man from UNCLE*. Complete the title of the British science fiction series he later starred in alongside Joanna Lumley, between 1979 and 1982: *Sapphire and.....*?

That's the end of the main quiz, but for anyone who (like *Oliver Twist*) still wants more, see if you can name these other well-known personalities who also sadly passed away in 2023:

- a) UK crooner famous for hits *Durham Town* and *The last farewell*.
- b) First footballer in the UK to be transferred for £1m.

- c) Distinguished actor featured in (mostly supporting) roles including *Lethal Weapon* and *The Hunt for Red October*, also guest starred in Pet Shop Boys videos.
- d) Double winner of best actress Oscars, later turned to politics.
- e) Chancellor of the Exchequer in the 1980s, has an equally famous daughter.
- f) Star of *Fiddler on the Roof*.
- g) Veteran sports (mainly football) broadcaster, worked for the BBC between 1971 and 2008.
- h) Former ITV *World of Sport* anchorman between 1968 and 1985.
- i) Veteran British actress, starred in 1958 war film classic *Ice cold in Alex*.
- j) Chic Italian actress often referred to informally as 'La Lollo'.
- k) Actress star of Channel 4's *Drop the dead donkey* and *The Windsors*.
- l) Nothing compares to her.
- m) BBC news presenter between 2007 and 2022.
- n) Former bassist of the Smiths.
- o) Had the original Christmas hit with *Mary's Boy Child*.
- p) Former *Strictly* judge, liked to award 'seven' out of ten.
- q) *For the love of dogs* presenter and former cross-dressing comedian.