# Christmas trivia



Write each answer on its line. The answers are on the last page.

Name _____

1. In the 1823 poem “A Visit from St. Nicholas”, how many reindeer pull Santa’s sleigh?

_____

2. “A Visit from St. Nicholas” is better known by its first line. What is it?

_____

3. Which carol was first sung on Christmas Eve 1818 in the village church of Oberndorf, Austria?

_____

4. In what language were the words of “Silent Night” first written?

_____

5. What was “Jingle Bells” called when it was first published in 1857?

_____

6. Who wrote A Christmas Carol, first published in December 1843?

_____

7. In A Christmas Carol, whose ghost visits Scrooge first, to warn him of the spirits to come?

_____

8. How many spirits does Marley tell Scrooge to expect after him?

_____

9. In “The Twelve Days of Christmas”, what does the true love send on the first day?

_____

10. Counting every verse of “The Twelve Days of Christmas” in full, how many gifts arrive in all?

_____

# Christmas trivia, continued

11. How many arms does a snowflake grow?

12. The poinsettia is named after Joel Poinsett, the first US minister to which country?

13. In Mexico the poinsettia is called flor de nochebuena. What does that mean?

14. In what year did Christmas Day first become a US federal holiday?

15. Which president lit the first National Christmas Tree near the White House, on Christmas Eve 1923?

16. That first National Christmas Tree came from which state?

17. Since what year has NORAD tracked Santa's sleigh every Christmas Eve?

18. A store's newspaper advert with a wrong phone number led to NORAD's Santa tracking. Which store?

19. In which city does the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree stand?

20. In Australia, Christmas falls in which season?

**Score:** _____ / 20

# Answers

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1. Eight
2. 'Twas the night before Christmas
3. Silent Night
4. German: “Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht”
5. The One Horse Open Sleigh
6. Charles Dickens
7. Jacob Marley, his old business partner
8. Three: the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come
9. A partridge in a pear tree
10. 364
11. Six
12. Mexico
13. Christmas Eve flower
14. 1870, at first for federal workers in Washington, D.C.
15. Calvin Coolidge
16. Vermont
17. 1955
18. Sears
19. New York City
20. Summer