

Stories and traditions

12 questions. One point each. Write one answer per line; leave a question blank to pass.

Team / player: _____

1. Which author wrote A Christmas Carol?

2. In which year was A Christmas Carol first published?

3. Which department store gave children the original 1939 Rudolph story?

4. Who wrote the original 1939 story about Rudolph?

5. Which future V&A director commissioned its famous 1843 Christmas card?

6. What was the surname of the artist who illustrated that first Christmas card?

7. Which composer wrote the ballet score for The Nutcracker?

8. In the Royal Ballet's Nutcracker story, what is the young heroine's name?

9. Which London sweetshop owner developed the Christmas cracker?

10. Paper-wrapped French sweets inspired the cracker. What are they called?

11. Queen Charlotte's early Christmas tree was a fir or a yew?

12. Which royal couple appeared with their tree in an influential 1848 illustration?

Round score: _____ / 12

Keep this sheet for the final total. Agree on timing before starting.

Festive plants and winter surprises

12 questions. One point each. Write one answer per line; leave a question blank to pass.

Team / player: _____

13. Which U.S. president lit the first National Christmas Tree in 1923?

14. From which U.S. state did that 1923 National Christmas Tree come?

15. A poinsettia's large colourful parts are petals or modified leaves called bracts?

16. The RHS describes a poinsettia's small actual flowers as which colour?

17. The ginger used in gingerbread is a rhizome: a root or an underground stem?

18. Which spice shares ginger's botanical family: turmeric or saffron?

19. The familiar branched snow crystal has how many main arms?

20. What freezes onto an existing snow crystal to build its arms: vapour or sand?

21. Which space telescope launched on Christmas Day in 2021?

22. Which rocket carried that Christmas Day 2021 telescope launch?

23. Which hemisphere has its winter solstice in December?

24. In Australia, the December solstice starts astronomical summer or winter?

Round score: _____ / 12

Round 1: _____ Round 2: _____ Total: _____

Maximum total: 24 points. Tied highest totals share the win.