CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Christmas *history quiz*

How did Christmas become the Christmas we know? Twenty questions from Roman times to the 20th century.

Team name _____

Score /20

1 Which Roman winter festival in December is often linked with Christmas customs?

2 In which century is Christmas first recorded on 25 December, in Rome?

3 Which saint, a bishop of Myra, inspired Santa Claus?

4 Which king was crowned in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day 1066?

5 Which group in Parliament stopped Christmas celebrations in the 1640s?

6 Which queen, wife of George III, set up an early Christmas tree at Windsor?

7 Who commissioned the first commercial Christmas card?

8 In 1848, which newspaper showed Victoria and Albert's family round a tree?

9 In which country was 'Silent Night' first performed, in 1818?

10 Electric Christmas tree lights were first shown in 1882 by a partner of which inventor?

11 Which US cartoonist's 1860s drawings shaped the modern image of Santa?

12 Which drinks company's 1930s adverts made the red-suited Santa famous?

13 In which year did the Christmas truce happen on the Western Front?

14 Rudolph first appeared in 1939 in a free booklet from what kind of shop?

15 Which Somerset town's thorn tree sends a sprig to the monarch each Christmas?

16 Who presided over medieval Christmas revels as the 'Lord of ___'?

17 Pantomime grew partly out of which Italian comedy style?

18 Which large log was traditionally burned over Christmas?

19 Which fruit was a treat in Victorian stockings?

20 Which carol's tune comes from a 1582 Finnish song book, Piae Cantiones?

ANSWERS

The answers

1 **Saturnalia** Which Roman winter festival in December is often linked with Christmas customs?

2 **The 4th century (AD 336)** In which century is Christmas first recorded on 25 December, in Rome?

3 **St Nicholas** Which saint, a bishop of Myra, inspired Santa Claus?

4 **William the Conqueror** Which king was crowned in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day 1066?

5 **The Puritans** Which group in Parliament stopped Christmas celebrations in the 1640s?

6 **Queen Charlotte** Which queen, wife of George III, set up an early Christmas tree at Windsor?

7 **Sir Henry Cole** Who commissioned the first commercial Christmas card?

8 **The Illustrated London News** In 1848, which newspaper showed Victoria and Albert's family round a tree?

9 **Austria** In which country was 'Silent Night' first performed, in 1818?

10 **Thomas Edison** Electric Christmas tree lights were first shown in 1882 by a partner of which inventor?

11 **Thomas Nast** Which US cartoonist's 1860s drawings shaped the modern image of Santa?

12 **Coca-Cola** Which drinks company's 1930s adverts made the red-suited Santa famous?

13 **1914** In which year did the Christmas truce happen on the Western Front?

14 **A department store (Montgomery Ward)** Rudolph first appeared in 1939 in a free booklet from what kind of shop?

15 **Glastonbury** Which Somerset town's thorn tree sends a sprig to the monarch each Christmas?

16 **Misrule** Who presided over medieval Christmas revels as the 'Lord of ___'?

17 **Commedia dell'arte** Pantomime grew partly out of which Italian comedy style?

18 **The Yule log** Which large log was traditionally burned over Christmas?

19 **An orange** Which fruit was a treat in Victorian stockings?

20 **Good King Wenceslas** Which carol's tune comes from a 1582 Finnish song book, Piae Cantiones?