







With which 4th century saint did the legend of Santa begin?

start timer

ANSWER



Saint Nicholas. The real Saint Nicholas was bishop of the town of Myra in Turkey. The Dutch named him Sinter Claes, which became Santa Claus when Dutch settlers took the tradition to the United States.





ANSWER



British Children leave some cookies for Santa Claus. What else do they leave?

In the United Kingdom, children traditionally put out socks for Santa Claus to put their presents in. They are usually hung above the fireplace or at the end of the child's bed. It is traditional to leave a carrot or some other food for his reindeer.





ANSWER



In which country did the Christmas tree tradition start?

The Christmas tree tradition started in Germany in the sixteenth century. Queen Victoria's husband, Albert, who was from Germany, brought the tradition to the United Kingdom and German immigrants took it to the United States at the end of the 1800s.





When were the first electric Christmas tree lights used?

start timer

ANSWER



Electric Christmas tree lights were invented in 1895 by American Ralph Morris after concerns over accidents involving the use of candles.





ANSWER



What was invented by Tom Smith, an English confectioner, in 1847?

In 1847, Tom Smith, an English confectioner, invented the Christmas cracker. The company he founded exists to this day and supplies Christmas crackers to the British royal family





ANSWER



Every Christmas day the British Monarch's speech is broadcast to the nation. Who wrote the first speech in 1932?

The first British Monarch's speech broadcast to the nation in 1932 was written by Rudyard Kipling, author of Jungle Book and the poem If. Its opening words were 'I speak now from my home and from my heart

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ANSWER



Rudolph the red nosed deer first appeared in 1939. How did it happen?

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer first appeared in 1939 to promote the opening of the latest shop in the Montgomery-Ward department store chain. The story was written by Robert May whose four-year-old daughter chose the name Rudolph. The famous song of the same name was written by his brother-in-law.





In Finland Santa Claus travels on...

start timer

ANSWER



In Finland, Santa travels on a goat made of straw called Ukko. Straw decorations are a great tradition at Christmas in Sweden.





How many people have spent Christmas Day in space?

start timer

ANSWER



Since the crew of Apollo 8 became the first people in space over Christmas 1968, 35 people have so far spent Christmas Day in either in Salyut, MIR or the International Space Station.