



A BUNCH OF FIVES

| | Name: | Score |
|----|--|-------|
| 1 | ... the recording act going for its fourth UK Christmas #1 in succession in 2021, and the original titles of the songs that have been parodied | |
| 2 | ... the 5 cities in which the Ashes series 2021/22 tests are due to be played (including the third one that starts on Christmas Day) | |
| 3 | ... the UK Prime Ministers on Christmas Day in the following years: (a) 1921; (b) 1941; (c) 1961; (d) 1981; (e) 2001 | |
| 4 | ... the 5 countries with the highest populations of Christians (source: World Population Review, compiled from CIA World Factbook 2021 et al) | |
| 5 | ... the 5 final words of the lines of the first verse following the line, "Once in Royal David's City" in the common version of the hymn | |
| 6 | ... any 5 of the top 10 highest-grossing Christmas movies at the worldwide box office, not adjusted for inflation (source: Box Office Mojo, films with "Christmas Theme" as a genre keyword) | |
| 7 | ... the 5 related seasonal names combined in the following string with alternate letters removed: _O_E_C_P_D_I_E_P_A_C_R_L_ T_E_ | |
| 8 | ... the 5 elements whose current chemical symbols (if all written in upper case) spell the word WREATHS | |
| 9 | ... 5 of the six contenders for the 2021 BBC Sports Personality of the Year award | |
| 10 | ... the 5 African countries whose common English name begins with C__ | |



CRACKER BARREL

| | Complete the underlined phrases in Christmas cracker jokes | Your answer: | Score |
|----|--|--------------|-------|
| 1 | What vaccine did Father Christmas get left out for him on Christmas Eve? <u>MP</u> | | |
| 2 | On Christmas Eve, I dressed up as Lara Croft, on Christmas Day as Maleficent and on Boxing Day as Thena from Eternals. Well, it is the <u>S</u> to be <u>J</u> ! | | |
| 3 | What's the most popular Christmas carol in the desert? <u>OCYF</u> . | | |
| 4 | Which relative will not be at Chris Whitty's Christmas dinner? <u>AV</u> | | |
| 5 | What did Adam say on 24th December? "It's <u>C</u> , <u>E</u> !" | | |
| 6 | The Christmas jumper I bought kept picking up static electricity, so I took it back to the shop and exchanged it for another one <u>FOC</u> | | |
| 7 | Why does Jackie Weaver control the weather at Christmas? She has <u>SA</u> . | | |
| 8 | James Dean never let Santa into his life. He was a <u>R</u> without a <u>C</u> . | | |
| 9 | I'm using Microsoft software to give praise merrily on high. It's <u>H</u> in <u>ES</u> . | | |
| 10 | Which Friends character nearly missed the 2021 Reunion Show due to the Test and Trace app? <u>CP</u> | | |
| 11 | Why does Christmas Scrabble take so long with Boris Johnson? He keeps <u>GBOHW</u> . | | |
| 12 | How fast does Santa go to make sure all our presents are delivered on time? <u>EFL</u> . | | |
| 13 | Have you heard the "cover" of that Band Aid song, " <u>DKIC</u> "? | | |
| 14 | What do you call Santa's little helpers? <u>SC</u> . | | |
| 15 | Why did Rudolph have to self-isolate? His nose failed the <u>LGT</u> . | | |
| 16 | I ordered <u>FK</u> off Amazon.com for reading, but they sent me a 'Two Ronnies' DVD instead.... | | |
| 17 | Why didn't Santa replace Comet and Cupid when they left to become HGV drivers? It was just <u>TD</u> . | | |
| 18 | I've got a job helping a one armed typist when he needs to do capital letters. It's <u>SW</u> . | | |
| 19 | What is Santa's native language? <u>NP</u> . | | |
| 20 | There's a new Christmas movie about a poor man who has only ever owned a single coat: <u>IAODL</u> | | |

CHRISTMAS PUB CRAWL

A MUSIC LINK

SET BY JOHN

The quiz team are off on a *merry* Christmas pub crawl, no doubt “entertaining” other pubgoers with a few *sweet* songs en route. From the links, *what* are the first (x) and the last (y) pubs on the crawl?

- 1 Extolled by Housman in *The Shropshire Lad* as “Loveliest of trees” because of its appearance in spring, *what* is the national flower of Japan? (Two-word answer, please!)?
- 2 A loose adaptation of a Stephen King novel of the same name, *which* US dystopian Schwarzenegger film centres on a game show in which criminals try to evade professional killers to earn a pardon?
- 3 *Rangifer tarandus* is the scientific name of *which* seasonal animals?
LINK 2&3
- 4 In an eponymous 2017 TV show, locations for *which* broadcaster’s *Country House Secrets* of food and history were Highclere Castle, Scone Palace, Powderham Castle and Goodwood House?
- 5 In a mis-quote famously ascribed to the Duke of Wellington, the battle of Waterloo was famously won *where*?
- 6 In *Under Milk Wood*, *which* rhyming obsessive character supplies the music for services at Llareggub Church?
LINK 5&6
- 7 What very apt collective noun is applied to a group of porcupines?
- 8 Beginning with an episode called “Skin” and ending with one titled “Who Done It”, Michael Gambon played the title role in *which* BBC TV drama written by Dennis Potter?
- 9 In the lyrics of everyone’s favourite Christmas hit, *who* sang “Galway Bay” as “the bells rang out for Christmas Day”?
LINK 8&9; SEQUENCE A: x, 2&3, 5&6, 8&9
- 10 Aspirin, cork, cinnamon and quinine are all products of *what*, botanically speaking?
SEQUENCE B: Link 1, 4, 7, 10, y

BONUS: Identify pubs x and y



CHRISTMAS TREASURE HUNT

A WORDS LINK

SET BY TAV

ALL ANSWERS ARE NINE LETTERS LONG AND SHOULD BE ENTERED INTO THE GRID.

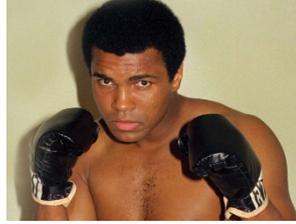
- 1 Derived from the ancient Greek for "outside form", *what* term in biology describes the outer layer of the gelatinous liquid inside a cell? The term is also used in paranormal contexts as the external manifestation of spiritual energy, for example the slime in the *Ghostbusters* film series?
- 2 In Greek mythology, the goddess of memory Mnemosyne gave birth to a number of daughters, fathered by her nephew Zeus disguised as a shepherd. (a) *How* many daughters? (Write as a word) (b) By *what* collective name do we best know them? (One-word answer)
- 3 Which city is home to the world's largest annual arts festival?
- 4 As explained in Elton John/Tim Rice's Oscar-nominated song, *what* is the two-word English translation of the Swahili phrase "hakuna matata"?
- 5 Which English conductor is best known for his association with the series of annual concerts in London popularly known as "the Proms", but formally named after him? (First name and surname required)?
- 6 What was the given name of the Great son of King Philip II who created one of the largest empires in history by the time he was 30 years old, stretching from Greece to India?
- 7 Around one-third of the world's population (including in the UK) live in jurisdictions where the legal system is described by *what* two-word term, based on precedent and previous written opinions by judges and tribunals? The term is also often used to describe a live-in partner.
- 8 What outdated term for a form of musical transport is now more commonly used to describe copycat behaviour?
- 9 Home to around 5,000 people (and the only park-run in the Western Isles), *what* is by far the largest town in the Hebrides by population?
- 10 Writing the answers to 1-9 in the grid on the answer sheet forms a treasure map with compass directions in shaded squares leading to a buried hidden message. Starting from the top-left corner of the map, follow the directions (not all are needed) to reach the spot where the message is buried (marked in the usual way). Nine letters passing through this point reveal what hidden message.

Team name: _____

Score: _____

“NO S-ING-ING!” (Parts of) correct answers may be linked to form 12 seasonal pairs.



| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
|  <p>1. <i>(the organisation)</i></p> |  <p>2. <i>(his birth name)</i></p> |  <p>3. <i>(his stage name)</i></p> |  <p>4.</p> |
|  <p>5.</p> |  <p>6. <i>(her name from 1578)</i></p> |  <p>7. <i>(the river crossing)</i></p> |  <p>8. <i>(her stage name)</i></p> |
|  <p>9.</p> |  <p>10. <i>(the device's common shorter name)</i></p> |  <p>11. <i>(the Tube station)</i></p> |  <p>12.</p> |
|  <p>13. <i>(the character)</i></p> |  <p>14. <i>(the horse)</i></p> |  <p>15. <i>(the two missing words)</i></p> |  <p>16. <i>(the vessel)</i></p> |
|  <p>17.</p> |  <p>18. <i>(the furry beast)</i></p> |  <p>19. <i>(the confection)</i></p> |  <p>20. <i>(the port)</i></p> |
|  <p>21. <i>(the game)</i></p> |  <p>22.</p> |  <p>23. <i>(the country coloured green)</i></p> |  <p>24. <i>(what the one on the right is singing)</i></p> |

IN THE CHRISTMAS DAY NEWS



SET BY TAV

Initials of answers give the common name of a ten-letter work associated with Christmas

- 1 On Christmas Day 1066, William the Conqueror was crowned King of England, ending the Conquest. He also retained the title of Duke of which Duchy in the Kingdom of France?
- 2 On Christmas Day 1991, Mikhail Gorbachev resigned and the Soviet Union dissolved, becoming 15 independent countries. The referendum of the second-largest of these countries by population was finalised on the same day — *which* country?
- 3 On Christmas Day 1971, the first son of the Prime Minister of a country was born. That son is now the Prime Minister of the same G20 country. *What* is their shared surname?
- 4 On Christmas Day 1492, the *Santa Maria* ran aground on the shores of Haiti and was abandoned. *Which* explorer led that voyage?
- 5 On Christmas Day 1989, Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena were executed. *Of which* country was he the recently-deposed leader?
- 6 Christmas Day 1984: the birth of *which* cricketer — record holder for most England Test Matches, runs, centuries and Tests as captain?
- 7 On Christmas Day 1643, Captain William Nylors gave an island in the Indian Ocean 350 km south of Java (now an external territory of Australia with capital city Flying Fish Cove) *what* current name?
- 8 On Christmas Day 1944, Maurice James Christopher Cole was born, one of the first BBC Radio 1 DJs and star of comedy series on ITV and BBC, often appearing with Cleo Rocos — by *what* name was he better known, including in the title of one of his TV shows?
- 9 On Christmas Day 1918, Anwar el-Sadat was born — on his 59th birthday he met Israel's PM Menachem Begin for talks to discuss a Peace Treaty they would sign the following year, winning the Nobel Peace Prize. *Of which* country was Anwar el-Sadat president?
- 10 On Christmas Day 1938, Czech playwright Karel Čapek died – he is perhaps most famous for introducing which modern word to English, a word abbreviated in the title of his 1920 play *R.U.R.*?