Classic Pop Recordings

Write one answer per question. Give this sheet to each player or team.

Name or team _____ Score _____

1. Who recorded the original hit version of Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree?

2. Which duo first released Last Christmas in 1984?

3. Who recorded All I Want for Christmas Is You for her 1994 album Merry Christmas?

4. Which singer wrote and recorded Feliz Navidad?

5. Who recorded the original 1957 version of Jingle Bell Rock?

6. Which singer's recordings made The Christmas Song, often known as Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire, a seasonal standard?

7. Which singer made the original 1953 recording of Santa Baby?

8. Whose 1957 release Elvis' Christmas Album includes a version of Blue Christmas?

9. Which singer first released Wonderful Christmastime as a solo single in 1979?

10. Whose jazz trio recorded the soundtrack of A Charlie Brown Christmas?

11. Who released Christmas (Baby Please Come Home) on a 1963 Phil Spector Christmas album?

12. Who recorded Driving Home for Christmas, which appears on New Light Through Old Windows?

UK and Canadian Connections

Write one answer per question. Give this sheet to each player or team.

Name or team _____ Score _____

13. Which band recorded Fairytale of New York with Kirsty MacColl?

14. What name did the charity supergroup use for its 1984 recording of Do They Know It's Christmas?

15. Which Christmas hit did Slade first release in 1973?

16. Which British group recorded I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday?

17. Who sings alongside John Lennon on Happy Xmas (War Is Over)?

18. Which glam rock band released Lonely This Christmas in 1974?

19. Which singer had a hit with Step Into Christmas?

20. Which British musician recorded Stop the Cavalry?

21. Which Canadian singer released the 2011 album Christmas, featuring the opener It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas?

22. Which Canadian country singer duets with Michael Bublé on White Christmas on his 2011 album?

23. Which group fronted by Freddie Mercury recorded Thank God It's Christmas?

24. Who recorded the 2011 single Mistletoe?

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Carols and Song Origins

Write one answer per question. Give this sheet to each player or team.

Name or team _____ Score _____

25. What was the original published title of Jingle Bells?

26. Who composed the melody of Silent Night?

27. Who wrote the words that became Silent Night?

28. In which country was Silent Night first performed in 1818?

29. Which English-language holiday song uses the melody of the Ukrainian choral piece Shchedryk?

30. Who composed the choral arrangement of Shchedryk that underlies Carol of the Bells?

31. Which English-language carol uses the Welsh tune Nos Galan?

32. Who wrote both words and music for the 1850s carol We Three Kings?

33. Which bell-themed carol has a repeated refrain beginning with the Latin word Gloria?

34. Which carol names a ruler called Wenceslas?

35. Which song has a title that is traditionally translated as O Christmas Tree?

36. Which carol's English title names three ships?

Films and Festive Listening

Write one answer per question. Give this sheet to each player or team.

Name or team _____ Score _____

37. Who introduced Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas in the 1944 film Meet Me in St. Louis?

38. Which Irving Berlin song from Holiday Inn won the Academy Award for Original Song in 1943?

39. Which 1964 animated television special features the character Yukon Cornelius?

40. Which singer performs Believe in the 2004 film The Polar Express?

41. What Christmas film features the song Somewhere in My Memory?

42. Which composer wrote the music for Somewhere in My Memory?

43. Who sings You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch in the 1966 animated special?

44. Which singing cowboy had a hit with Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer in 1949?

45. What group released a novelty version of Jingle Bells using canine barks?

46. Which singer recorded It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year in 1963?

47. Who sings Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! over the end credits of the original Die Hard?

48. Which keyboard instrument can be heard playing the principal melody of Linus and Lucy?

Christmas Songs Quiz

Allow equivalent wording when the question has more than one accepted form.

Round 1 · Classic Pop Recordings

1. Brenda Lee.
2. Wham!
3. Mariah Carey.
4. José Feliciano.
5. Bobby Helms.
6. Nat King Cole.
7. Eartha Kitt.
8. Elvis Presley.
9. Paul McCartney.
10. Vince Guaraldi.
11. Darlene Love.
12. Chris Rea.

Round 2 · UK and Canadian Connections

13. The Pogues.
14. Band Aid.
15. Merry Xmas Everybody.
16. Wizzard.
17. Yoko Ono, with the Harlem Community Choir.
18. Mud.
19. Elton John.
20. Jona Lewie.
21. Michael Bublé.
22. Shania Twain.
23. Queen.
24. Justin Bieber.

Christmas Songs Quiz

Allow equivalent wording when the question has more than one accepted form.

Round 3 · Carols and Song Origins

25. The One Horse Open Sleigh.
26. Franz Xaver Gruber.
27. Joseph Mohr.
28. Austria.
29. Carol of the Bells.
30. Mykola Leontovych.
31. Deck the Halls.
32. John Henry Hopkins Jr.
33. Ding Dong! Merrily on High.
34. Good King Wenceslas.
35. O Tannenbaum.
36. I Saw Three Ships.

Round 4 · Films and Festive Listening

37. Judy Garland.
38. White Christmas.
39. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.
40. Josh Groban.
41. Home Alone.
42. John Williams.
43. Thurl Ravenscroft.
44. Gene Autry.
45. The Singing Dogs.
46. Andy Williams.
47. Vaughn Monroe.
48. Piano.

Christmas Songs Quiz

Cut along the dashed lines. Keep the card answer key for the host.

CARD 01

Who sang the 1958 hit version of Run Rudolph Run?

A. Elmo Shropshire
B. Brian Wilson
C. Chuck Berry
D. Charles Brown

CARD 02

Who recorded Christmas Wrapping with the Waitresses?

A. Elmo Shropshire
B. Charles Brown
C. Brian Wilson
D. Patty Donahue

CARD 03

Who recorded a hit version of Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer as part of the duo Elmo & Patsy?

A. Elmo Shropshire
B. Patty Donahue
C. Brian Wilson
D. Chuck Berry

CARD 04

Which singer recorded the 1964 album The Beach Boys' Christmas Album as a member of the group and wrote Little Saint Nick with Mike Love?

A. Elmo Shropshire
B. Patty Donahue
C. Brian Wilson
D. Chuck Berry

CARD 05

Which singer recorded the 1960 holiday single Please Come Home for Christmas?

A. Charles Brown
B. Brian Wilson
C. Chuck Berry
D. Elmo Shropshire

Christmas Songs Quiz

Cut along the dashed lines. Keep the card answer key for the host.

CARD 06

Which song's title describes an ideal winter landscape?

A. Winter Wonderland
B. Merry Xmas Everybody
C. Blue Christmas
D. Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

CARD 07

Which song title uses “Xmas” and the word “Everybody”?

A. Winter Wonderland
B. Merry Xmas Everybody
C. Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!
D. Blue Christmas

CARD 08

Which novelty song title includes a grandmother and a reindeer?

A. Blue Christmas
B. Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer
C. Merry Xmas Everybody
D. Winter Wonderland

CARD 09

Which festive song title asks for snow three times?

A. Blue Christmas
B. Merry Xmas Everybody
C. Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer
D. Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

CARD 10

Which song's title names a kind of holiday the singer expects to be blue?

A. Merry Xmas Everybody
B. Blue Christmas
C. Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer
D. Winter Wonderland

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Christmas Songs Quiz

Answer key for the 10 cut-out cards.

01. C — Chuck Berry

02. D — Patty Donahue

03. A — Elmo Shropshire

04. C — Brian Wilson

05. A — Charles Brown

06. A — Winter Wonderland

07. B — Merry Xmas Everybody

08. B — Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer

09. D — Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

10. B — Blue Christmas