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| **So here it is, Merry Christmas. Answer the following general knowledge questions about Christmas. 1 point for each correct answer.** |
| **1** | Ten lords a-leaping | **6** | David Bowie |
| **2** | They all topped the best seller list for toys at Christmas at some point in the 1990’s | **7** | The Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is typically a 50- to 60-year-old Norway spruce, generally over 20 metres tall. |
| **3** | In January 2021 Wham!'s Last Christmas topped the UK singles chart for the first time, 36 years after it was first released. | **8** | 4 - his former business partner Jacob Marley and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come. |
| **4** | Clarence Odbody | **9** | Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; |
| **5** | It was the first time it was pre-recorded. | **10** | Rosemary Clooney is George Clooney's aunt |

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| **Everybody's having fun.**  |
| **1** | Helen Sharman – first Briton in space<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/stories/astronaut-wanted-story-helen-sharmans-unique-spacesuit> |
| **2** | Bobby Charlton – Manchester Utd and England footballer (in 1959) <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Bobby-Charlton> |
| **3** | Nella Rose – social media influencer and jungle celebrity <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-67495271> |
| **4** | Shigeru Miyamoto – video game designer <https://nintendoeverything.com/miyamoto-i-would-never-call-mario-a-kids-game-or-a-mascot-that-only-kids-understand/> |
| **5** | Marie Curie – Nobel Prize winner (Physics 1903; Chemistry 1911) <https://www.nobelprize.org/womenwhochangedscience/stories/marie-curie> |
| **6** | Tom Hanks – actor, director, author; [typewriter maven](https://typewriters.com/blogs/blogtom-hanks-hollywood-star-and-typewriter-enthusiast/) <https://www.princeedwardtheatre.co.uk/whats-on/an-evening-with-tom-hanks> |
| **7** | James Cleverly – Home Secretary (previously, Foreign Secretary) <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/03/19/james-cleverly-kazakhstan-dress-holds-eagle-pledges-russian/> |
| **8** | Bobby Brazier – actor, model, ballroom dancer (aspiring)<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/profiles/3h8ZNbPHrHjB3k73yf847pT/bobby-brazier> |
| **9** | Jane Goodall – primatologist and anthropologist\*<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/jane-goodall/> |
| **10** | Doja Cat – rapper, at Haute Couture Week in Paris<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-64384479> |
| \*for those who answer Dian Fossey: close, but no cigar. Or points☹<https://gorillafund.org/who-we-are/dian-fossey/dian-fossey-bio/> |

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| **Look to the future now. The following are all scheduled to take place in 2024. One point for each correct answer.** |
| **1** | The 96th Academy Awards (Oscars) |
| **2** | Final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2024 |
| **3** | The Paralympic Games (Paris) |
| **4** | United States presidential election |
| **5** | Last night of Taylor Swift’s “The Eras Tour” |

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| **It's only just begun. The following are all first lines from songs which have been number 1 at Christmas. 1 point for the name of the song and 1 point for the band or singer.** |
| **1** | I WANT TO HOLD YOUR HAND by THE BEATLES |
| **2** | LILY THE PINK by THE SCAFFOLD |
| **3** | ERNIE (THE FASTEST MILKMAN IN THE WEST) by BENNY HILL |
| **4** | BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY by QUEEN |
| **5** | DON'T YOU WANT ME by THE HUMAN LEAGUE |
| **6** | ALWAYS ON MY MIND by PET SHOP BOYS |
| **7** | 2 BECOME 1 by SPICE GIRLS |
| **8** | MAD WORLD by MICHAEL ANDREWS & GARY JULES |
| **9** | ROCKABYE by CLEAN BANDIT |
| **10** | I LOVE SAUSAGE ROLLS by LADBABY |