



# Christmas Corner

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## Dictionary Activity

<http://oxforddictionaries.com/words/for-learners-of-english>

### 1. Find out whether these statements are true or false.

- a) What is *Away in a Manger* - a Christmas Carol, a Christmas film or a Christmas story?
- b) If you received a *Christmas hamper*, what would you do with the contents?
- c) It is typical to eat *turkey* on Christmas Day in the UK, but in the US the word turkey can be an insult. What does it mean?
- d) When is *Yuletide*?
- e) Which of these do we normally eat hot: *Christmas pudding* or *Christmas cake*?
- f) Everybody knows the Christmas song 'Jingle Bells'. *Jingle* has two meanings. What are they?
- g) What would you do with a *sledge*?
- h) *Holly* is a typical Christmas plant but what do you call one *piece* of holly?
- i) *Gift* is a synonym for present but what does *to look a gift horse in the mouth* mean?
- j) Sometimes people get a *gift voucher* at Christmas time. What do they call this in the US?
- k) What do people do under the *mistletoe* at Christmas?
- l) Does *mistletoe* have the same pronunciation in British English and American English?
- m) Do you *make* or *do* a snowman?





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- n)** Some people (over 18) drink *eggnog* at Christmas time. What are the ingredients?
- o)** Mince pies are typical at Christmas time. They are made with *mincemeat*. What are the main ingredients of *mincemeat*?
- p)** In the Christmas song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, what is the first present mentioned?
- q)** In the famous Christmas poem *The night Before Christmas* which animal is mentioned in the third line?
- r)** Is *Boxing Day* before or after Christmas Day?
- s)** Do we normally use *Xmas* instead of *Christmas* when we speak or when we write?
- t)** Rudolph was a red-nosed reindeer. What's the plural of *reindeer*?





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## ANSWER KEY

- a)** A Christmas Carol.
- b)** Eat (and drink) them!
- c)** A stupid or useless person.
- d)** The period around Christmas Day.
- e)** Christmas pudding.
- f)** A sound like small bells ringing that is made when metal objects are shaken together and a short song or tune that is easy to remember and is used in advertising on radio or television.
- g)** Travel across snow.
- h)** A sprig of holly.
- i)** To refuse or criticise something that is given to you for nothing.
- j)** A gift certificate.
- k)** Kiss.
- l)** Yes.
- m)** Make.
- n)** Beer, wine, etc. mixed with eggs and milk.
- o)** Dried fruit and spices.
- p)** A partridge in a pear tree.
- q)** A mouse.
- r)** After (26th December).
- s)** When we speak.
- t)** Reindeer or reindeers.

