

A Christmas music quiz

Level: intermediate/upper-intermediate

Materials: recordings of twelve pop and rock Christmas songs, a CD player/computer

Time: 45 min.

Procedure: Students work in groups of four, five or six members. They pick a number, the teacher plays the song under that number. They first have to guess the name of the song and the musician(s) performing it. They score five points for each correct answer. Then they are asked three more questions about the song, scoring three points for each correct answer.

N.B. Rules of the game are adaptable as well as quiz questions.

Quiz questions:

Song 1: Do they know it's Christmas? by Band Aid

1. Name 3 musicians from Band Aid. (Bob Geldof, Bono Vox, Midge Ure, Sting, Tony Hadley, Paul Young, Simon Le Bon, Paul McCartney)
2. One of them was Sting. What is his real name? (Gordon Sumner)
3. What was Sting before he became a musician? (A teacher)

Song 2: All I want for Christmas is you by Mariah Carey

1. This is a song from Mariah Carey's fourth studio album. What was it called? (All I want for Christmas is you)
2. Which film made this song even more popular? (Love actually)
3. Richard Curtis, director of Love Actually, also directed two box-office hits starring Rowan Atkinson, and Hugh Grant and Julia Roberts, respectively. What are they called? (Mr Bean, Notting Hill)

Song 3: Last Christmas by Wham

1. How many members did Wham have? (Two)
2. Which famous musician was one of the members? (George Michael)
3. What is George Michael by origin? (Greek)

Song 4: Oh Holy Night by Celine Dion

1. Which country is Celine Dion from? (Canada)
2. How many brothers and sisters does she have? (13)
3. Name 3 of her hits. (My heart will go on, Because you loved me, I'm alive, Beauty and the Beast, That's the way it is, The power of love)

Song 5: Santa Claus is coming to town by Bruce Springsteen

1. Which decade of the 20th century was the song composed in? (1934)
2. What is the name of Bruce Springsteen's band? (E-street band)
3. What is Bruce Springsteen's nickname? (The Boss)

Song 6: Jingle bell rock by Billy Idol

1. Where is Billy Idol from? (UK)
2. What type of music did he write at the beginning of his career? (Punk)
3. Complete the titles of his three great hits: *Cradle of Love*, *White Wedding*, *Hot in the City*.

Song 7: Happy New Year by ABBA

1. Where was ABBA from? (Sweden)
2. How did the band make the name? (Initials of the band members' names: Anni-Frid, Benny, Bjorn, Agnetha)
3. What famous musical produced in 1999 was based on their music? (Mamma Mia)

Song 8: Merry Christmas everyone by Shakin' Stevens

1. What is Shakin' Stevens' nationality? (Welsh)
2. What is his real name: Michael Barratt, Jack Good or Robert Llewellyn?
3. Which famous musician did he resemble or imitate? (Elvis Presley)

Song 9: Christmas - baby please come home by U2

1. Where is U2 from? (Ireland)
2. What is the name of the singer? (Bono Vox)
3. The base guitarist Adam Clayton and the drummer Larry Mullen made music for the 1996 box-office hit – action movie starring Tom Cruise. What was it? (Mission Impossible)

Song 10: Mistletoe by Justin Bieber

1. Which country is Justin Bieber from? (USA)
2. How old is he now? (21)
3. What tradition is connected to mistletoes? (A couple who meet under a mistletoe should kiss)

Song 11: Please come home for Christmas by Bon Jovi

1. What music style is this? (Blues)
2. What is the name of Bon Jovi's singer and leader? (Jon Bon Jovi)
3. Apart from music, Jon Bon Jovi is credited for his work related to what other art? (Film)

Song 12: Santa baby by Madonna

1. What is Madonna's birth name? (Madonna Louise Veronica Ciccone)
2. Name at least three things she wants from Santa in this song. (a yacht, a convertible, a duplex, a ring, a platinum mine)
3. Name five of Madonna's songs. (Like a prayer, Like a virgin, Material girl, True blue, La isla bonita, Vogue, Rain, Express yourself, Who's that girl, American pie, This used to be my playground, Papa don't preach, Crazy for you)

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