

## Christmas trivia numbers pairwork

### Student A

*Choose one of the sentences below, turn it into a question and ask your partner. If they guess the wrong number, give them hints like "It's much higher" until they get exactly the right number.*

The busiest day of the year for online retailers is always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of December.

A Xmas tree needs to be planted up to 10 years before it is sold.

40% of American shoppers start their Xmas shopping before Halloween

For Xmas 2007, three quarters of Americans said they planned to buy gift tokens as Xmas presents.

Americans send approximately 2 billion Xmas cards a year.

In 2007, 47% of Americans planned to buy at least some Xmas presents online.

The average American household was predicted to spend \$49.76 on Xmas decorations in 2007.

More than 12 million Xmas trees were expected to be sold in 2007.

35% of all diamonds are sold over the Xmas period (more even than Valentine's Day)

The "Princess" Beanie Baby teddy bear produced to commemorate the death of Princess Diana was sold for up to \$300 each during Xmas 1997

If you really did buy your true love a partridge in a pear tree, you would have to pay \$104.99 (2005 prices).

The character Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer was created by an advertising man for a store pamphlet in 1939.

The song "White Christmas" by Bing Crosby has sold over 31,000,000 copies to date.

"The Christmas Song" was written by Mel Torme in only 40 minutes. He was 19 years old at the time (1945).

The first electric Xmas tree lights were used in 1895.

7 out of 10 British dogs get Xmas presents from their owners.

Alabama proclaimed Xmas day an official holiday in 1836 (it was the first American state to do so).

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### Student B

*Choose one of the sentences below, turn it into a question and ask your partner. If they guess the wrong number, give them hints like "It's much higher" until they get exactly the right number.*

America's official Xmas tree is 300 feet (90 meters) high. It is a sequoia in King's Canyon National Park, California

A traditional Ukrainian Xmas dinner has 12 courses.

The singer of the hit song "I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus" was 12 years and 11 months old when it reached number 1 in the American pop charts.

Xmas trees first become popular in Germany in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Xmas was first celebrated on 25 December in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century AD.

During the Xmas shopping season in the USA, Visa credit cards are used 5,340 times a minute

The first Hallmark Xmas cards were sold in 1915.

Celebrating Xmas was illegal in the UK for 13 years from 1647 to 1660.

In the UK, it is good luck to eat 12 mince pies (one on each day of the 12 days of Xmas)

The first cartoon depicting Santa Claus with reindeer and a sleigh first appeared on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1863.

The first charity Xmas card was produced by UNICEF in 1949.

The real Santa Claus (Saint Nicholas) lived in Turkey in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century AD

Sir Isaac Newton was born on Xmas Day 1642.

Humphrey Bogart was born on Xmas Day 1899.

Charlie Chaplin died on Xmas day 1977.

Joan Miro died on Xmas day 1985.

Nicolae Ceausescu was executed on Xmas day 1989.