

topic: **HOLIDAYS | Christmas (Part 1)**

*Fill in each blank space with the correct response. If both responses are acceptable, choose the one that sounds **more natural**:*

Christmas is one of the most important holidays in the (Christian) English-speaking world. It (1)\_\_\_\_\_ (feasts/celebrates) the birth of Jesus Christ.

Giving presents is a very important Christmas (2)\_\_\_\_\_ (landmark/tradition). Gifts are traditionally exchanged on Christmas Day (December 25th).

The day before Christmas is called Christmas (3)\_\_\_\_\_ (Eve/Evening).

The man who brings children (and adults) presents at Christmas is called Santa (4)\_\_\_\_\_ (Claus/Clause).

You can also say "Santa" for short, or refer to him as "(5)\_\_\_\_\_ (jolly/jelly) old St. Nick."

Songs that are sung during the Christmas season are called Christmas (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (cares/carols).

The people who sing these songs are called (7)\_\_\_\_\_ (carolers/care-givers). Traditionally, these people went from house to house singing songs about the birth of Jesus, etc.

Many people feel that Christmas has become too (8)\_\_\_\_\_ (commercial/comparative). They feel that too much (9)\_\_\_\_\_ (emphasis/empathy) is put on buying gifts, causing people to forget what Christmas is all about.

A traditional Christmas drink called "eggnog" is a sweet beverage made (10)\_\_\_\_\_ (with/by) eggs.

Children are taught that Santa (11)\_\_\_\_\_ (Claus/Clause) lives in the North Pole, and has little helpers called (12)\_\_\_\_\_ (elves/gnomes).

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**ANSWERS:**

1)celebrates 2)tradition 3)eve 4)Claus 5)jolly 6)carols 7)carolers  
8)commercial 9)emphasis 10)with 11)Claus 12)elves