



For you to know! WatchMojo.com is a Canadian based video content producer, publisher, and syndicator. The company's mission is to "inform and entertain," and they publish videos on YouTube daily about pop culture, most of which are top ten lists.

The History of Christmas by WatchMojo.com

-1- Before watching a WatchMojo.com video about the History of Christmas, make sure that you know the words in the box. Consult the dictionary if necessary.

secular / calendar / pagan / commemoration / Nativity / Sinterklaas / mantel / to visit with

-2- Now watch the video twice and decide whether the statements below are True or False. If False, try to change the statement so as it could sound right!

1) Christmas falls on December 25th each year and is celebrated in numerous countries across the globe, but only in the Northern hemisphere. – **T / F**

2) Before Christmas became an important time on the Christian calendar it used to be a time for pagan celebration. – **T / F**

3) Whether it was a commemoration of the lengthening days or a celebration of the God of agriculture Mars, there were many wild festivities throughout Europe during December. – **T / F**

4) It is widely believed that Jesus was born in December. – **T / F**

5) In the 4th century the Feast of the Nativity began to spread across Europe. – **T / F**



6) By 1200 another December festival began gaining popularity – the Feast of St. Nicholas honored a 4th century saint famous for his charity towards the poor. – **T / F**

7) Today St. Nicholas is known to many as Santa Claus only. – **T / F**

8) There was such a fact in the history that the celebrations of Christmas were even banned by puritan Christians in the 1600s due to the holiday's origins as a pagan festival. – **T / F**

9) There are many haters of Christmas today because the holiday became too commercialized. – **T / F**

10) The holiday as it is celebrated today by millions of North and South Americans took shape in the 19th century. – **T / F**

11) Charles Dickens' famous 1843 story 'A Christmas Story' heavily influenced the way the holiday was celebrated in the USA. – **T / F**

12) Today's Christmas traditions are a mix of Christian rituals and pagan customs that result in giving gifts, sending greeting cards, singing carols and decorating Christmas trees. – **T / F**

13) Today it's customary to go to church, help the poor and the needy, and eat a huge feast consisting of a turkey, stuffing, and cranberry sauce. – **T / F**

14) According to the tradition on Christmas Eve children hang their stockings on the mantelpiece and leave whisky and a piece of turkey with cranberry sauce for Santa to energize him on his trip around the world. – **T / F**

15) From country to country Christmas celebrations vary greatly but one thing remains the same – billions use Christmas time to visit with family, friends and loved ones to celebrate together. – **T / F**



KEYS

-2- Now watch the video twice and decide whether the statements below are True or False. If False, try to change the statement so as it could sound right!

- 1) Christmas falls on December 25th each year and is celebrated in numerous countries across the globe, but only in the Northern hemisphere. – **F**
- 2) Before Christmas became an important time on the Christian calendar it used to be a time for pagan celebration. – **T**
- 3) Whether it was a commemoration of the lengthening days or a celebration of the God of agriculture Mars, there were many wild festivities throughout Europe during December. – **F**
- 4) It is widely believed that Jesus was born in December. – **F**
- 5) In the 4th century the Feast of the Nativity began to spread across Europe. – **T**
- 6) By 1200 another December festival began gaining popularity – the Feast of St. Nicholas honored a 4th century saint famous for his charity towards the poor. – **F**
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- 8) There was such a fact in the history that the celebrations of Christmas were even banned by puritan Christians in the 1600s due to the holiday's origins as a pagan festival. – **T**
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