

# CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

*A goody pack from Ernst Klett Sprachen*



Klett



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*Dear Teacher,*

The following activities and ideas are for you to spice up your lessons in the weeks leading up to **Christmas**. Find short and medium length suggestions to fill anything from 5-10 minutes to a whole lesson. The activities presented here, have partly been taken from existing products and adapted to the season. This collection is a bit like Christmas crackers – nice little surprises but without the silly hats!

We hope you and your students enjoy them!

*Season's Greetings from the editors.*



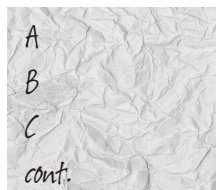


# 1 Vocabulary – Word fields

The activities can be used alone as a time filler or as a warm-up activity in combination with any of the reading or speaking activities.

The word list on Copy Master 1 serves as a basis or model solution for the vocabulary activities below.

## 1.1 The Alphabet game (suitable for all levels)



This is really quite simple and can be played at all levels, in all kinds of combinations (pairs, groups, teams), and can take as long as you want. You can play it with or without dictionaries and have a lot of fun. Your students need a sheet of paper (one per pair/group/team), with the alphabet written on the left side, each line beginning with a new letter.

On the count of three, the teams start writing down words related to Christmas (and/or winter). As soon as one group has found a word for each letter, they shout 'Stop!' and you start the evaluation. The group reads out their word – if another team has the same word, it is crossed off the list. If nobody else has it, they get a point. Some words are bound to be very far-fetched indeed – so get your students to explain why or how exactly this particular word is related to Christmas. This can be quite entertaining. Grant the points if they manage to convince you and the rest of the class.

You can make this more difficult and a longer activity, if they can only write one word at a time. If you allow them to use a dictionary, they'll be practising how to use a dictionary without really noticing – an added bonus.

## 1.2 Stadt – Land – Fluss

Play a game of *Stadt - Land - Fluss* with your students. Use categories like: decorations, winter activities, presents, food etc. The word list on Copy Master 2 will give you plenty of ideas.

## 1.3 Crossword puzzle

Most kids enjoy crossword puzzles. You can either use the one provided on Copy Master 3 and let your students solve it alone, in pairs or small groups, or you can turn it into a proper pair work activity, where one student has the clues for the ACROSS words, and the other the clues for the DOWN words. You could even chop up the clues and hand them out to students and turn this into a milling activity, where they have to walk through class to find all the clues. ➔ Copy Master 3

Another fun option is to give them the words and let them write the clues themselves or to let them generate a complete Christmas/Winter crossword puzzle themselves. This could be a homework assignment and they can swap their puzzles and solve them in the next lesson.

### Solution to Copy Master 3

	Word	Clue
1	sweater	Some people like to wear really ugly ones at Christmas. It keeps you warm.
2	crackers	When you pull these, little presents, a joke and a paper hat fall out.
3	turkey	Most people in the UK eat one of these birds at Christmas.
4	bauble	A round ball you can use to decorate your Christmas tree.
5	wreath	A round Christmas decoration people hang on their door.
6	cranberry	The basis of a red sauce that people eat at Christmas.
7	carols	Christmas songs you sing in church.
8	nutcracker	The _____ is a ballet that people often watch at Christmas.



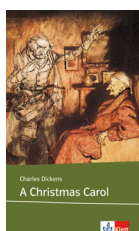


	Word	Clue
9	Queen	In the UK the _____ always gives a speech at 15:00.
10	Day	Christmas _____ is on 25th December.
11	Boxing Day	_____ is on 26th December in the UK.
12	Eve	Christmas _____ is on 24th December.
13	midnight	People often go to _____ mass on 24th December.
14	gingerbread	Children like to decorate _____ houses.

## 2 Reading

### 2.1 A Christmas Carol

There are a number of graded readers suitable for all levels of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. For example:



ISBN 978-3-12-577521-3  
Klett Reader



ISBN 978-3-12-536351-9  
Easy Reader



ISBN 978-3-12-500121-3  
Eli



ISBN 978-3-12-515125-3  
Black Cat

Have a session where you read the students one of the shorter versions (or excerpts) and then play a game of *Who am I?* where they are assigned the different characters of the story. They stick a name on their back and have to walk around class to find out who they are, by asking each other yes/no questions.

**Material needed:** Post-its and a marker pen.

**Characters:** Ebenezer Scrooge / Jacob Marley / Bob Cratchit / Tiny Tim / Mrs Cratchit / Scrooge's nephew Fred / The Ghost of Christmas Past / The Ghost of Christmas Present / The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come

**Alternative tasks for higher levels:** send the students off to research the story, its setting, the idea behind it. Get them to do mini-presentations and then talk about:

- Scrooge's attitude to Christmas
- Scrooge's management skills
- life in London in the 1800s
- the role of the ghosts
- what really matters in life
- what Christmas is about

### 2.2 Martyn Pig (grade 9 or higher)

Hand out the excerpt taken from Kevin Brooks' *Martyn Pig* on Copy Master 4. Get your students to read the text, find relevant Christmas vocabulary and phrases and then discuss the suggested questions in small groups. Get them talking about moods and atmosphere and help them contrast this rather gloomy description to the more romantic traditional depiction of Christmas as a cheerful, pseudo-peaceful, kind and loving time of the year. This text excerpt also lends itself to vocabulary building: let your students find opposites and develop a mind map of a positive and a negative Christmas atmosphere.

⇒ Copy Master 4



ISBN 978-3-12-578165-8





## 3 Speaking activities

Suitable and adaptable to various levels from grade 5 upwards. The suggestions made here have been adapted to the season from their original publication in *Teaching Compendium: Speaking activities* (ISBN 978-3-12-920134-3).



### 3.1 Swap-it cards

⇒ Copy Masters: 5 – 7 (suitable for grade 5 – 8)

In this milling activity each student receives a card from the card set and walks around class. Once they meet another student they read out the question on their card. The other student answers the question and then reads out the question on their card. Once that question has been answered, the students swap cards and continue milling around. They continue in this way for about 10-15 minutes. **Note:** students will be tempted to only answer "Yes"/or "No" – encourage them to give complete (short) answers.

### 3.2 Discussion prompts

⇒ Copy Masters: 8 – 10 (suitable for grades 8 and 9 or higher)

These discussions prompts can be used in a milling activity, as pair work or in small groups. As milling activity students pick a prompt, walk through class and find a partner. They briefly discuss each other's prompts and then find another partner. In pairs or groups, they are given a selection of prompts and discuss them. In small groups they also practise turn-taking, expressing agreement or disagreement, asking questions, etc.

### 3.3 Picture-based information-gap activities

⇒ Copy Masters 11-14 (suitable for grades 6-8)

The information-gap activities presented here are all based on picture input. Students work in pairs and describe their picture to each other. Based on the description alone they try to find similarities and differences in their pictures. **Important:** They mustn't show each other their pictures!

⇒ Copy Master 11 *Similarities and Differences I* (Family scene)

**Similarities:** family scene, several generations, Christmas tree, silly hats on heads, happy, red decorations on tree...

**Differences:** presents, fire-place, day, evening, meal time, Christmas food

⇒ Copy Master 12 *Similarities and Differences II* (Christmas tree)

**Similarities:** Setting: Christmas tree in a living room (armchair, fire-place), presents, Christmas stockings, decorations...

**Differences:** colour of decorations (red vs white), amount of candles, floor (wood vs carpet), window with curtains, wreath...

⇒ Copy Master 13 *Similarities and Differences III* (Snowman)

**Similarities:** children outside in the snow, dressed in warm, colourful clothes, hats/gloves, snow on ground, trees in background...

**Differences:** weather, type of activity (snowball fight vs building a snowman), number of children...

⇒ Copy Master 14 *Similarities and Differences IV* (Winter activities)

**Similarities:** 'snowman', hat (type of hat different), carrot nose, stick arms, blue(ish) sky, good weather, buttons, smile, ...

**Differences:** snowman vs. sandman, sunglasses, snow, sand, sea, time of day, ...







### 3.4 Picture- and text-based information-gap activity

⇒ Copy Master 15 (suitable for grade 9 or higher)

In *Packing for a trip* the students are given a combination of textual and visual information. The advantage is that they can talk about larger contexts, which demand a broader linguistic knowledge and competence. The images presented here can be handed out to pairs, but you can also let students work in groups (3-5 students).

Wrap up the activity by showing the images to the whole class at the end of the lesson and revising any vocabulary elicited at the beginning. Ask for a vote on which image the class prefers and why. Send them off into the snow / break / holiday....

### 3.5 Text-based information-gap activity: Santa's delivery problem

⇒ Copy Master 16 (grade 6-8)

Each student or pair of students gets a copy describing Santa's delivery problems. Cut up and distribute the clues on the second page of Copy Master 16. You can either put the clues in different places in the classroom or give one to each student pair and turn this into a milling activity. (Once they have filled the first pieces of information into their tables, they can also ask other students specific questions, such as "Do you know what colour Lou's door is?" or "Do you know who doesn't like sport?". If you don't have enough space in your classroom, you can split the class into smaller groups and give each group all clues (ideally cut them out and mix them before handing them out). They can take turns to read out the clues and work out Santa's delivery problem.

Key:

house number	name	wants Santa to bring	doesn't like	door colour	number of windows	age	believes in Santa?
1	Alex	book	sport	red	8	7	yes
2	Lou	riding boots	science	blue	7	12	no
3	Sam	tennis racquet	reading	black	6	10	no
4	Charlie	board game	girly things	purple	10	8	No, but his parents think he does.
5	Maisie	make up	horses	green	9	11	no
6	Lena	chemistry set	boys	grey	11	9	no

### 3.6 Christmas Time: Ask or Tell?

⇒ Copy Master 17 (grade 6 or higher)

Similar to the prompt cards above, but designed for a lower level. This activity is about getting everyone speaking about their own experiences of Christmas. Put a few topic words on the board e.g. present, decoration, food and elicit questions that you could ask people about them e.g. What did you get for Christmas last year? What are you hoping to get this year?

#### Preparation

1. Cut up one set of cards (Copy Master 17) per group of 3 – 4 students.
2. Bring one coin per group.

#### In class

1. Explain that this game is about talking about Christmas. The winner is the student who collects the most cards.





2. Divide students into groups of 3-4 and give each group a pile of cards facing downwards and a coin. Explain that heads = tell, and tails = ask. Each student in turn tosses the coin and picks up a card. If they have to "tell", then they should talk about the topic on the card. This doesn't have to be a presentation, so the others can ask questions as they speak. They can keep the card when they have finished speaking. If they have "ask", they choose one student and ask them a question about the topic. This student then gets the card when they have finished speaking.

3. You can choose to set a time limit. As the students are playing, listen to them and make notes of things they did really well and things that weren't quite right.

### Wrapping up:

Project some of the good sentences you heard mixed up with some weaker sentences onto the board. Ask students to identify the correct and incorrect sentences, and correct any errors.

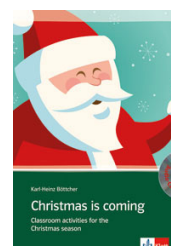
## 4 A note on inclusion

Students from other religious backgrounds will not have the same experience as the rest of the class. Offer options for speaking about important days in their own religion, or talking about how they experience Christmas.

## 5 Related activities

If you're looking for more Christmas activities, this book is full of photocopiable resources for a range of levels and ages:

*Christmas is coming* by Karl Heinz Böttcher. ISBN 978-3-12-506689-2



### Copy Masters

- 1 Word list (alphabetical)
- 2 Word list (by categories)
- 3 Crossword puzzle (grade 6 or higher)
- 4 Martyn Pig (grade 9 or higher)
- 5 Swap-it cards: Set 1 (grade 5 – 6)
- 6 Swap-it cards: Set 2 (grade 7)
- 7 Swap-it cards: Set 3 (grade 8)
- 8 Prompt cards: Dilemmas (grade 9 or higher)
- 9 Prompt cards: Would you rather...? (grade 8/9)
- 10 Prompt cards: Advantages and Disadvantages (grade 9 or higher)
- 11 Information-gap: Similarities and Differences I – Family scene (grades 6 – 8)
- 12 Information-gap: Similarities and Differences II – Christmas tree (grades 6 – 8)
- 13 Information-gap: Similarities and Differences III – Outside activity (grades 6 – 8)
- 14 Information-gap: Similarities and Differences IV – Snowman (grades 6 – 8)
- 15 Information-gap: Packing for a trip (grade 9 or higher)
- 16 Santa's Delivery Problem (grade 6 – 8)
- 17 Christmas Time: Ask or tell? (from grade 6)





# 1 Word list - Alphabetical

12 days of Christmas	garland	pumpkin pie
(artificial) tree	gather	quiet
(Brussel) sprouts	gift	reindeer
Advent	gingerbread house	relatives
advent calendar	glitter	reunion
angel	gloves	ribbon
baking	goodwill	roast potatoes
ballet – The Nutcracker	goose	Rudolph the red-nosed
bauble	gravy	reindeer
bells	guest	sacred
Bethlehem	ham	Santa's list
birth	harmony	scarf
blizzard	holly	Scrooge
boots	holy	service
bow	icy	shepherd
box	infant	siblings
Boxing Day	in-laws	sled
bread sauce	inn	sleigh bells
brisk	ivy	snow
candle	Jesus	snowbound
candy cane	jolly	snowflakes
card	Joseph	spices
carol singing / carol singers	joyful	St. Nick
carols	Kings	stable
chestnuts	lights	star
chilly	magi	stickers
chimney	manger	stocking filler
chocolate	Mary	stockings
Christmas cake	merry	sweater
Christmas crackers	midnight mass	tinsel
Christmas Day	mince pie	togetherness
Christmas Eve	mistletoe	toys
coat	mulled wine	travel
cold	nativity	turkey
companionship	nativity play	visit
cookies	nutcracker	wintry
cooking	nutmeg	wise men
cosy festive	ornaments	worship
crackers	package	wrapping paper
cranberry sauce	parsnips	wreath
creche	peace	X-mas
elf / elves	peaceful	Yule
feast	pie	zero degrees
fireplace	pine cone	
frosty	plum pudding	
Frosty the Snowman	poinsettia	
fruitcake	prayer	







## 2 Word list - by categories

**Adjectives:** cosy, festive, holy, jolly, joyful, merry, peaceful, sacred

**Clothes:** sweater, scarf, coat, gloves, boots

**Christianity:** Advent, service, goodwill, midnight mass, peace, prayer, worship, angel, carol singing / carol singers, manger, nativity play

**The Christmas story:** Bethlehem, birth, creche, infant, inn, Jesus, Joseph, Kings, magi, manger, Mary, nativity, shepherd, stable, star, wise men



**Days of Christmas:** Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day; 12 days of Christmas

**Decorations:** angel, (artificial) tree, bells, bow, candle, candy cane, crackers, garland, glitter, holly, ivy, lights, mistletoe, ornaments, poinsettia, pine cone, stickers, tinsel, wreath, bauble



**Family:** companionship, gather, guest, reunion, togetherness, travel, visit, Christmas crackers, harmony, relatives, in-laws, siblings

**Food and drink:** baking, bread sauce, chestnuts, Christmas cake, cooking, cranberry sauce, chocolate, cookies, feast, fruitcake, gingerbread house, goose, gravy, ham, mince pie, mulled wine, nutcracker, nutmeg, parsnips, pie, plum pudding, spices, turkey, roast potatoes, pumpkin pie, (Brussel) sprouts



**Music:** ballet – *The Nutcracker*, carols

**Presents:** advent calendar, box, card, gift, package, ribbon, stocking filler, toys, wrapping paper



**Santa Claus / Father Christmas:** boots, chimney, elf / elves, fireplace, stockings, reindeer, sleigh bells, sled, Santa's list



**Other characters:** Frosty the Snowman, St. Nick, Scrooge, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer

**Verbs:** celebrate, decorate, give, hope, receive, rejoice, wish, wrap – unwrap

**Weather:** blizzard, brisk, cold, snow, chilly, frosty, icy, snowbound, snowflakes, wintry





## 3 Christmas crossword puzzle

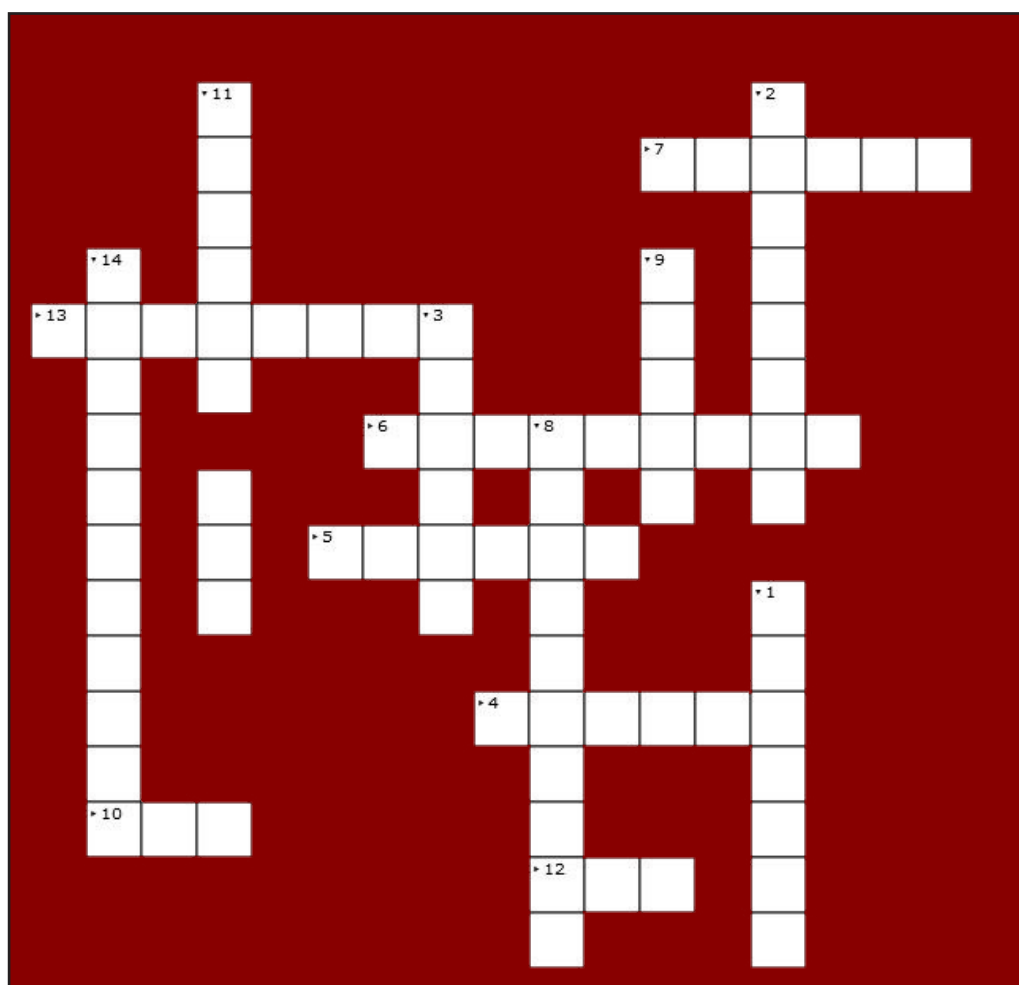
### Clues

#### Down:

- 1 Some people like to wear really ugly ones at Christmas. It keeps you warm.  
 2 When you pull these, little presents, a joke and a paper hat fall out  
 3 Most people in the UK eat one of these birds at Christmas.  
 8 The \_\_\_\_\_ is a ballet that people often watch at Christmas. It is a tool you need to open nuts.  
 9 In the UK the \_\_\_\_\_ always gives a speech at 15:00.  
 11 \_\_\_\_\_ is on 26th December in the UK.  
 14 Children like to decorate \_\_\_\_\_ houses.

#### Across:

- 4 A round ball you can use to decorate your Christmas tree.  
 5 A round Christmas decoration people hang on their door.  
 6 The basis of a red sauce that people eat at Christmas.  
 7 Christmas songs you sing in church.  
 10 Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ is on 25th December.  
 12 Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ is on 24th December.  
 13 People often go to \_\_\_\_\_ mass on 24th December.



## 4 Martyn Pig

Read the text below. Underline all the words related to Christmas or winter.

In pairs or small groups talk about the following questions:

1. What do you find out about Martyn's dad?
2. Why does Martyn feel he has to get out (last line)?
3. How does this excerpt make you feel?
4. Try to retell this scene, but change it to make it sound nice!

Excerpt from *Martyn Pig* by Kevin Brooks (ISBN 978-3-12-578165-8), p. 14-16

Christmas meant nothing to us. It was just a couple of weeks off school for me and a good excuse for Dad to drink, not that he ever needed one. There was no festive spirit, no goodwill to all men, no robins, no holly – just cold, rainy days with nothing much to do.

I spent most of that Wednesday afternoon in town. Dad had given me some money – four dirty fivers – and told me to 'get some stuff in for Exmas: turkey, spuds<sup>1</sup>, presents ... sprouts<sup>2</sup>, stuff like that'. It was too early to get the food in, Christmas was still a week away, but I wasn't going to argue. If he wanted me to go shopping, I'd go shopping. It gave me something to do.

Halfway down the street I heard a shout – 'Mar'n!' – and turned to see Dad leaning out of the bedroom window, bare-chested, a cigarette dangling from his lip.

'Don't forget the bloody whasnames,' he yelled, making a yanking movement with both hands, tugging<sup>3</sup> on two invisible ropes.

'What?' I called back.

He took the cigarette from his mouth, gazed blankly into the distance for a moment, then blurted out, 'Crackers! Get some bloody Exmas crackers<sup>4</sup>. Big ones, mind, not them tiny buggers<sup>5</sup>.'

1 **spud** (inf) potato

2 **sprout** Brussels sprout (Rosenkohl): vegetable that many British people eat for Christmas

3 **to tug** to pull

4 **cracker** a British Christmas tradition: a thin, decorated tube, with a small firework built in, that makes a loud noise

when you pull it apart to reveal a small present, a paper hat and a motto or joke

5 **bugger** (inf, sl) an annoying person or thing

In town, outside Sainsbury's, the scariest Father Christmas I'd ever seen was slumped in the back of a plywood<sup>6</sup> sleigh. He was thin and short. So thin that his big black Santa's belt wound twice around his waist. Stiff black stubble<sup>7</sup> showed on his chin beneath an ill-fitting, off-white Santa beard and – strangest of all, I thought – a pair of brand new trainers gleamed on his feet.

When he Ho-ho-ho'd he sounded like a serial killer. Six plywood reindeer pulled his plywood sleigh. They were painted a shiny chocolate brown, with glittery red eyes and coat-hanger antlers<sup>8</sup> entwined with plastic holly. It was raining.

I watched the skinny Santa for a while – thirty seconds and a Lucky Bag per kid – then headed off towards the other end of town. As I walked I got to thinking about the whole Father Christmas thing. I was trying to remember if I'd ever really believed that a fat man in a fat red suit could squeeze down a million different chimneys all in one night. I suppose I must have believed it at some point. I have a very vague memory of sitting on a Santa's knee when I was about three or four years old. I can still remember the nasty, scratchy feel of his red nylon trousers, the stickiness of his beard, and a strange fruity smell. When I asked him where he lived a familiar slurred voice answered, 'Poland ... uh ... North Poland ... in an underground igloo with twenty-two dwarves – hic – and a sleigh-deer.'

It was still raining when I got to The Bargain Bin<sup>9</sup>.

6 **plywood** Sperrholz

7 **stubble** three-day beard

8 **antlers** Geweih

9 The **Bargain Bin** an invented name for a shop that might sell their poor quality products very cheaply



## 4 Martyn Pig

It's one of those cheap shops that sell all kinds of rubbishy stuff – cups, towels, bean bags, pencil cases. Upstairs, there's a toy department full of weedy<sup>10</sup> footballs and plastic machine guns that make noises. You can test them. There's an arrow pointing to the trigger that says Press and when you pull the trigger they go kakakakakakaka or dugga-dugga-dugga-dugga-peowpeow.

Ricochets<sup>11</sup>. I was just looking around, looking at the racks of little toys – plastic animals, cows, sheep, crocodiles, rubber snakes, water pistols. I thought I might find something there for Alex, a present. Nothing serious, just a little something, you know, a token<sup>12</sup>. The year before I'd bought her a box of plastic ants. I don't remember what she gave me.

Anyway, I was just standing there staring at the toys on the wall, trying to find something I thought she'd like, something I could afford, when I suddenly realised that I wasn't really looking at anything at all. I was looking, but not seeing. It was the noise. I couldn't concentrate because of the noise. Horrible tinny<sup>13</sup> Christmas musak blaring out from speakers in the ceiling, synthesised sleigh bells and chirpy pianos, groany old singers trying too hard to be happy – it was unbearable. A great swirling mess of sound searing its way into my head. I tried to ignore it, but it just seemed to get louder and louder. And it was too hot in there, too. It was boiling. There was no air. I couldn't breathe. The sound was paralysing<sup>14</sup> – chattering machine guns, talking animals, wailing police car sirens, deedur dee-dur deedur, parents shouting at their kids, whacking them on the arm, the kids screaming and crying, the constant beep beep beep of the tills, the music ... it was like something out of a nightmare.

I had to get out.

- 
- 10 weedy small, cheap, useless  
11 ricochet Querschläger  
12 token nothing big, just a symbolic gift  
13 tinny artificial, shrill  
14 paralysing lähmend





## 5 Swap-it cards: Set 1

Yes/No questions and questions with a question word (Simple Present)

Where do you celebrate?	What's your favourite part of Christmas?
How do you celebrate Christmas?	Do you get visitors at Christmas?
Have you got presents for your parents?	What's on your wish list?
Do you bake any cookies?	What's your favourite food at Christmas?
When do you usually get a Christmas tree?	What do you like best at Christmas?
Where do you hide ( <i>verstecken</i> ) your presents?	Who decorates the Christmas tree?
Do you like it when it snows?	Do you like Christmas food?
How do you build a snowman?	Do you like snowball fights?
When do you unpack the presents?	What do you do in the Christmas holidays?
Do you like singing at Christmas?	Do you go to church on Christmas Eve?
When do you go to bed at Christmas?	Can you do what you want at Christmas?
Do you wear nice clothes at Christmas?	When do you get up at Christmas?
What food do you eat at Christmas?	Do you do sports at Christmas?
Can you meet friends at Christmas?	Do you have to be good at Christmas?







## 6 Swap-it cards: Set 2

Questions using the simple past or present perfect

Did you listen to Christmas music yesterday?	When was the last time you lost a pair of gloves?
How did you celebrate Christmas last year?	Did you have an advent calendar last year?
Did you make your Christmas presents?	How many Christmas presents did you buy last year?
Have you watched many Christmas TV shows?	Have you helped your parents at Christmas in the past?
Have you ever forgotten to get a present for someone in your family?	Have you ever hated a Christmas present?
When did you buy your first present?	When did you buy your last present last Christmas?
Did you go away in the last Christmas holidays?	What was your favourite meal at Christmas?
Have you ever been ill at Christmas?	Has your brother or sister ever been ill at Christmas?
Have you ever eaten something bad at Christmas?	Which Christmas present did you like best?
Have you ever played Christmas carols at a Christmas market?	Have you sung Christmas carols at home?
Have you ever done something nice for a stranger?	What was the most fun lesson you had last year before Christmas?
Has someone unknown ever given you a Christmas present?	Have you ever returned or changed a Christmas present?
Did you write many Christmas greetings last year?	When did you last build a snowman?
When did you last have a snowball fight?	Have you ever been skiing?





## 7 Swap-it cards: Set 3

Make up your mind.



downhill skiing or snowboarding	ice-skating or ice-hockey
family or friends at Christmas	carols or contemporary Christmas music
snow or sunshine	buy presents or make presents
Christmas or birthday	red baubles or silver baubles
snowball fight or build a snowman	go to church on Christmas Eve or stay at home
Christmas comedy or action film	get presents before Christmas or last minute
Christmas cookies or chocolate	hot chocolate or coffee
Christmas at home or Christmas abroad	cinnamon or aniseed
"Peace on earth" or "I don't care"	summer or winter





## 8 Prompt cards: Dilemmas



### Dilemma

You little sister wants a rabbit for Christmas. Your parents are strictly against pets. Your best friend's rabbit has had babies and you could get one for free. What will you do?

### Dilemma

You have saved money for Christmas presents but a friend now offers you a brilliant deal on a second hand iphone. Do you spend the money on yourself and buy the iphone or do you use the money for Christmas presents as planned?

### Dilemma

Your best friend has just broken an arm and can't go on the planned skiing trip. Do you stay at home with your friend and do fun alternative things or do you go skiing anyway?

### Dilemma

You have arranged to meet friends for some Christmas shopping and you're a bit late. When you want to catch the bus, you see an elderly neighbour struggling to get off the bus with a lot of bags. Do you get on the bus to meet your friends or do you carry the bags home for your neighbour and take the next bus into town?

### Dilemma

A school mate is bragging about how he or she stole perfume and other beauty items to give away at Christmas. What do you do?

### Dilemma

Your father tells you about his brilliant present for your mum: a romantic weekend trip away. You know that your mum has made similar arrangements for the same weekend. What do you do? Spoil the surprise in advance or let them figure out a solution later?

### Dilemma

It's the last day of school before the Christmas break and traditionally you do a Secret Santa present exchange. But you completely forgot about it. What do you do?

### Dilemma

You mum has made big plans for the Christmas menu and is very excited about it. Unfortunately, she can't cook and manages to ruin nearly every meal she prepares. What do you do?

### Dilemma

The local river has frozen over but there is an official warning about the ice not being safe. Some friends of yours still want to go skating on the river. Do you go along, do you try to stop them or do you tell somebody about their plans (you know they will get into serious trouble if they are caught on the river).

### Dilemma

A shop assistant gives you change for 50 EUR, but you paid with a 10 EUR-note. Will you point out the mistake or keep the change?





## 9 Prompt cards: Would you rather...?



### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather celebrate Christmas with your best friends or with your family? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather be Santa Claus, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer or an angel in the school play? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather celebrate Christmas on a warm and sunny beach or in a dark, icy cold cabin? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather bake your own Christmas cookies or buy them in a shop? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather be given a good book for Christmas or a cat? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather watch a Christmas movie or go out to get a Christmas tree in the woods? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather spend two hours in a hot air balloon or in horse drawn sleigh? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather build a snowman or an igloo? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather go on a hiking trip in the snow or in the rain? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather be too cold or too hot? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather serve Christmas food at a nursing home for the elderly or at a homeless shelter? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather slip on ice and break a leg or step into dog poo on your way to a party? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather prepare a report on Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer or on Santa's elves? Why?

### Would you rather ...?

Would you rather prepare a play list of favourite songs for the school's Christmas party or for the summer party? Why?





## 10 Prompt cards: Advantages and Disadvantages



### Advantages and Disadvantages

Give a pet as a Christmas present or not?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Buy perfume as a Christmas present or not?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Go on a 3-day skiing trip. Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Build an igloo. Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Go somewhere sunny for Christmas.  
Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Eating too much food: Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Fireworks: Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Go on the frozen river: Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Be nice because it's Christmas: Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

Get presents for all your friends: Yes / No?

In your pair or group, decide who will talk about advantages and who will talk about disadvantages. Together, come to a conclusion.







## 11 Information-gap

### Find similarities and differences I

#### Partner A

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.



### Find similarities and differences I

#### Partner B

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.





## 12 Information-gap

### Find similarities and differences II

#### Partner A

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.



### Find similarities and differences II

#### Partner B

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.







## 13 Information-gap

### Find similarities and differences III

#### Partner A

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.



### Find similarities and differences III

#### Partner B

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.





## 14 Information-gap

### Find similarities and differences IV

#### Partner A

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.



### Find similarities and differences IV

#### Partner B

Describe your picture to your Partner. Try to find similarities and differences.







## 15 Information-gap

### Packing for a trip

Packing for a trip



Talk to your partner(s). **Don't show your picture!**

Tell each other what you have packed and compare.

Are some items identical? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones are different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to pack anything else?

What? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of trip has each of you packed for?

Together decide which trip you would prefer to go on?

Packing for a trip



Talk to your partner(s). **Don't show your picture!**

Tell each other what you have packed and compare.

Are some items identical? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones are different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to pack anything else?

What? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of trip has each of you packed for?

Together decide which trip you would prefer to go on?







## 15 Information-gap

### Packing for a trip

Packing for a trip



3

Talk to your partner(s). **Don't show your picture!**

Tell each other what you have packed and compare.

Are some items identical? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones are different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to pack anything else?

What? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of trip has each of you packed for?

Together decide which trip you would prefer to go on?

Packing for a trip



4

Talk to your partner(s). **Don't show your picture!**

Tell each other what you have packed and compare.

Are some items identical? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones are different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to pack anything else?

What? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of trip has each of you packed for?

Together decide which trip you would prefer to go on?





## 15 Information-gap

### Packing for a trip

Packing for a trip



Talk to your partner(s). **Don't show your picture!**

Tell each other what you have packed and compare.

Are some items identical? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones are different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to pack anything else? \_\_\_\_\_

What? \_\_\_\_\_

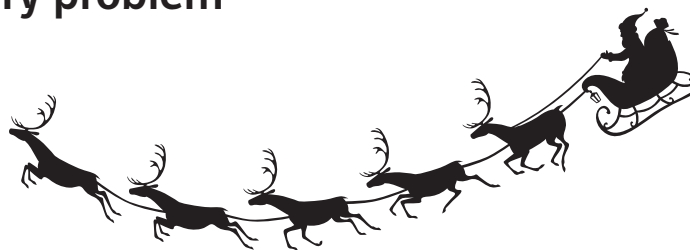
What kind of trip has each of you packed for?

Together decide which trip you would prefer to go on?





## 16 Santa's delivery problem



**Time:** 23:30, 24th December

**Place:** Redsleigh Drive, Yuletown

**Weather:** foggy, freezing and very windy

**Problem:** Santa's list has blown away! Santa, Rudolph and the rest of the reindeers now don't know who lives where or who should get which presents.

**Your task:** Help Santa and his reindeer! Read the clues to find out who should get what and who lives in which house.



Collect the information you need to help Santa and his reindeers here:

house number	name	wants Santa to bring...	doesn't like	door colour	number of windows	age	believes in Santa?
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							





## 16 Santa's delivery problem – the clues

Lou's worst subject at school is science. Her house has a blue door with 7 windows.	What's your favourite part of Christmas?
Lena lives next door to Maisie. All Lena can think about is the next experiment she is going to do. She's much too old to believe in Santa.	Alex is the only kid who still believes in Santa, but he is only 7. He lives at one end of the row of houses.
House number 4 has 10 windows and the kid who lives there is 8.	Maisie lives at number 5. Number 5 has 9 windows.
The boy who hates sport lives next door to the girl who hates science. His best friend, who lives at number 3, loves tennis though and hates reading. But they still have lots of fun together!	Charlie lives in the house between Maisie and Sam. He doesn't believe in Santa, but his parents think he does.
One house next to Sam's house has a purple door. The boy who lives there doesn't like girly things.	The girl who wants a chemistry set is 9 and lives in a house with 11 windows.
The girl who lives at the opposite end of the street from Alex doesn't like boys. She lives in a house with a grey door.	The girl who loves riding has two boys as neighbours. She is 12 and is older than both of boys. In fact, she's the oldest girl in the street.
The boy who hates girly things really wants a new board game for Christmas. He lives next door to a house with a black door. The house on the other side has a green door.	Sam's house only has 6 windows. His house has the least windows in the street.
The 11 year old girl who lives in the house with a green door hates horses.	The boy who is 8 lives next door to a boy who is 10 and a girl who is 11.
The oldest girl in the street lives next door to the youngest boy in the street.	Only one child really believes in Santa.
Lena lives in the house with the most windows.	







## 17 Christmas Time: Ask or Tell? – The Cards

something you want for Christmas this year	the best Christmas present you ever received	the worst Christmas present you ever received	your favourite Christmas song
a good present for my Mum / Dad	what you do on 24th December	what you do on 25th December	the name for 26th December in the UK
what Christmas is about	the Christmas story	tree or no tree	how you decorate your home
where you go in the Christmas holidays	what you wear at Christmas	what you like best about Christmas	what you really don't like about Christmas
Father Christmas	what you eat at Christmas	what you and your family drink at Christmas	the weather at Christmas
Christmas smells	Christmas colours	Christmas sounds	Christmas stories







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