

Christmas Idioms



Activity 1: Read the Christmas idioms and match them with their definitions.

1. Deck the halls

2. The proof is in the pudding

3. A white Christmas

4. 'Tis the season to be jolly!

5. It's the thought that counts

6. Like turkeys voting for Christmas

7. Good things come in small packages

8. Eat, drink and be merry!

9. Christmas came early this year

10. The more the merrier

A. The more people you invite, the more enjoyable a party or celebration will be.

B. To decorate your house for Christmas.

C. The real value of something can only be judged from results, not physical appearance.

D. If it snows on Christmas Day.

E. Big presents aren't necessarily the best ones.

F. To encourage people to be happy during the festive period.

G. Good intentions are more important than the size of a gift.

H. When someone makes a decision that will have a negative outcome for them.

I. To enjoy yourself and have fun.

J. When someone experiences good fortune before the festive season.

This resource has been made for the purpose of teaching English language learners. We know that students can be learning English in many different places, in many different ways and at all ages, so we try to keep these resources as general as possible.

There are many acronyms associated with English language teaching. These include (but are not limited to) ELT, TEFL, EFL, ELL, EAL and ESOL. While the term ESL may not fully represent the linguistic backgrounds of all students, it is the most widely recognised term for English language teaching globally. Therefore, we use the term ESL in the names of our resources to make them easy to find but they are suitable for any student learning to speak English.

Activity 2: Read the sentences and fill in the gaps with one of the idioms from the table in Activity 1.



1. Finally, it's snowing! It looks like this year we'll have a _____.
2. Why are you so sad on Christmas Day? Tis _____!
3. Dad, why don't you invite your cousins to our Christmas party? There'll be a lot of people there, _____!
4. I don't really like the present my Grandma bought me, but I know it's _____.
5. Dale shouldn't have accepted the invitation, lots of people he doesn't like will be at the event. That's like _____.
6. The baby was born on 30th November and the whole family is so happy. Christmas _____.
7. My Christmas present is small but I really like it. It's true that big presents aren't always the best, and that _____.
8. Mum's decided to _____ this weekend and decorate the house before Christmas!
9. John: I've fixed the TV.
Miranda: Are you sure?
John: Yes, go and turn it on! The proof _____, you'll see it works perfectly.
10. There are only three things to do during the festive season: Eat, _____ and _____!