

SANTA CLAUS

Write a word in each gap to complete the text.

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Santa Claus, 1) _____ known 2) _____ Saint Nicholas, Father Christmas, Kris Kringle, 3) _____ simply "Santa", is a figure which was derived 4) _____ the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas, a historical, legendary and mythological figure who 5) _____ many Western cultures, is said 6) _____ bring gifts to the homes of the good children 7) _____ the late evening and overnight hours of Christmas Eve, December 24th or on 8) _____ Feast Day, December 6th (Saint Nicholas Day). The legend is based 9) _____ the tales concerning the historical figure of gift giver Saint Nicholas.

While Saint Nicholas 10) _____ originally portrayed wearing bishop's robes, today Santa Claus is generally depicted 11) _____ a plump, jolly, white-bearded man wearing a red coat 12) _____ white collar and cuffs, white-cuffed red trousers, and black leather belt and boots (images of him rarely have a beard with no moustache). This image became popular in the United States and Canada in the 19th century due 13) _____ the significant influence of caricaturist and political cartoonist Thomas Nast. This image has 14) _____ maintained and reinforced through song, radio, television, and films. In the United Kingdom and Europe, he 15) _____ often depicted in a manner identical to the American Santa Claus, but he 16) _____ commonly called Father Christmas.