Hard Christmas Trivia

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Which U.S. president lit the first National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C., in 1923?
   - A. Calvin Coolidge
   - B. Woodrow Wilson
   - C. Herbert Hoover
   - D. Warren G. Harding

2. Which British monarch delivered the first Christmas Day message to be televised live?
   - A. George V
   - B. George VI
   - C. Elizabeth II
   - D. Charles III

3. The first full-length staging of The Nutcracker in December 1892 took place in which city?
   - A. Vienna
   - B. St. Petersburg
   - C. Paris
   - D. Copenhagen

4. Henry Cole’s early printed Christmas card and the first publication of A Christmas Carol both date to which year?
   - A. 1870
   - B. 1827
   - C. 1854
   - D. 1843

5. Whose illustrations appear in the first edition of Charles Dickens’s A Christmas Carol?
   - A. Gustave Doré
   - B. John Leech
   - C. George Cruikshank
   - D. John Tenniel

6. A congressional measure in 1870 established Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, July 4, and presidentially designated thanksgiving days as legal holidays where?

A. The District of Columbia
B. The entire British Empire
C. The Alaska Territory alone
D. The State of New York alone

7. Who wrote the text of the first British royal Christmas radio broadcast, delivered by George V in 1932?

A. A. A. Milne
B. H. G. Wells
C. George Bernard Shaw
D. Rudyard Kipling

8. Which company staged the first complete production of The Nutcracker in the United States on Christmas Eve 1944?

A. Boston Ballet
B. New York City Ballet
C. San Francisco Ballet
D. Joffrey Ballet

9. Emily Bissell’s 1907 U.S. Christmas seals originally helped raise funds for a Delaware facility treating which disease?

A. Tuberculosis
B. Smallpox
C. Yellow fever
D. Polio

10. In 1843, Henry Cole commissioned which artist to make his printed Christmas card?

A. William Morris
B. John Everett Millais
C. Dante Gabriel Rossetti
D. John Callcott Horsley

11. The first official U.S. Christmas postage stamp showed a wreath and candles. At a postmasters’ convention in which city did it go on sale in 1962?

A. Boston
B. Philadelphia
C. Pittsburgh
D. St. Louis

12. Which pair correctly matches a U.S. Christmas card publisher and the location of his factory in the 1870s?

A. Louis Prang and Albany, New York
B. Louis Prang and Roxbury, Massachusetts
C. Henry Cole and Roxbury, Massachusetts
D. Henry Cole and Albany, New York

13. The National Christmas Tree ceremony returned to using a living tree in 1973. Which pairing identifies that tree’s species and the state it came from?

A. Norway spruce from New York
B. Colorado blue spruce from Colorado
C. Balsam fir from Vermont
D. Colorado blue spruce from Pennsylvania

14. In 1980, the National Christmas Tree was fully lit for 417 seconds during a special tribute. What did each second represent?

A. One day the American hostages in Iran had been held
B. One hour since a national day of mourning began
C. One year since the first decoration of a Christmas tree
D. One broadcaster carrying the national ceremony

15. Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret helped stage Christmas pantomimes at Windsor during World War II. What did the Wool Fund buy with money raised by those shows?

A. Stage curtains for theaters damaged in the war
B. Blankets to equip touring theater companies
C. Wool for making military clothing
D. Paper for printing Christmas cards for evacuees