Christmas trivia

1. Is Rudolph named in the 1823 poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas"?

A. No
B. Yes
C. Only in later editions
D. He is named in the last line

2. Which country is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition?

A. England
B. Norway
C. Germany
D. The United States

3. In the carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas," what is given on the fifth day?

A. Four calling birds
B. Six geese a-laying
C. Five golden bells
D. Five gold rings

4. Which country sends a Christmas tree to London’s Trafalgar Square each year?

A. Sweden
B. Norway
C. Finland
D. Canada

5. How many reindeer are named in the 1823 poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas"?

A. Six
B. Nine
C. Twelve
D. Eight

6. Which plant is the one people traditionally stand under for a Christmas kiss?

A. Mistletoe
B. Holly
C. Ivy
D. Poinsettia

7. Which of these is the potted Christmas plant with red leaf-like bracts?

A. Amaryllis
B. Cyclamen
C. Poinsettia
D. Christmas cactus

8. In parts of Europe, whose feast day on December 6 is an early gift-giving day?

A. St. Stephen
B. St. Nicholas

Christmas trivia, continued

C. St. Lucy
D. St. Martin

9. Boxing Day, the day after Christmas, is a public holiday in which of these places?

A. The United Kingdom
B. The United States
C. France
D. Spain

10. Noel is the word for Christmas in which language?

A. Latin
B. Spanish
C. French
D. Italian

Answer key

1. A - The 1823 poem does not mention Rudolph. He first appeared in a 1939 story booklet by Robert L. May.
2. C - Bringing an evergreen indoors and decorating it at Christmas began in Germany.
3. D - The gift named for the fifth day is five gold rings.
4. B - Norway has given London a Christmas tree for Trafalgar Square each year since 1947.
5. D - The poem names eight reindeer. Rudolph is not one of them.
6. A - Mistletoe is the plant in that Christmas custom.
7. C - A poinsettia’s red parts are bracts, not flower petals. The plant is a familiar Christmas pot plant.
8. B - December 6 is St. Nicholas Day, a gift-giving day in several European countries.
9. A - December 26 is a public holiday in the United Kingdom, and in several other countries that keep Boxing Day.
10. C - Noel is the French word for Christmas. It comes from the Latin word for birth.