

Traditional Christmas Carol Trivia Questions

1. Which modern Christmas carol has its foundations in a reimagining of a popular wedding composition?
2. Felix Mendelssohn's famous 18th century Christmas carol, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" was actually written by what prominent religious figure?
3. "Carol of the Bells" is based on what Ukrainian New Year's folk song?
4. The apocryphal Christmas carol "The Little Drummer Boy" was originally given what title?
5. What popular American rock band took inspiration from Handel's "Joy to the World" to create their own non-Christmas song of the same name in 1970?
6. What German title do many people know the song "O Christmas Tree" by?
7. What are the lyrics that are sung in "Angels We Have Heard on High's" haunting choral melody?
8. Which country does the melody that "Deck the Halls" is built off of come from?
9. Which historic Christmas carol's precise origins aren't known, but has evidence that dates it back to a 15th century French song and was originally written in Latin?
10. What joyous Christmas carol, dating back to the mid-19th century, has deep African- American spiritual roots?
11. Which traditional Christmas carol is first documented in the 1885 hymn collection Little Children's Book for Schools and Families?
12. What unexpected instrument did Franz Gruber compose "Silent Night" on?

Traditional Christmas Carol Trivia Answers

1. The Trans-Siberian Orchestra's 1998 song "Christmas Canon"
2. Charles Wesley, the founder of Methodism, published the lyrics for this tune in his 1739 work Hymns and Sacred Poems.
3. "Shchedryk"
4. "Carol of the Drum"
5. Three Dog Night
6. "O Tannenbaum"
7. Gloria in Excelsis Deo
8. Wales
9. "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
10. "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
11. "Away in a Manger"
12. The guitar

