# Christmas Puzzles and Questions

# Year 12

1. This puzzle is a word search puzzle that contains a hidden message. First find all the words, both Christmassy and accounting, that are shown in the list below. Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other. Once you find all the words, copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.

| T | Y | O | W | N | E | R | E | E | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | N | L | H | A | P | B | C | V | R |
| P | A | E | L | Y | C | U | I | I | A |
| F | H | U | V | O | R | S | O | T | W |
| T | L | A | B | D | H | I | V | S | I |
| I | I | E | T | L | A | N | N | E | N |
| B | T | F | I | N | E | E | I | F | G |
| E | S | F | O | C | A | S | H | T | S |
| D | M | A | I | R | S | S | K | O | D |
| L | O | S | S | G | P | K | G | X | Z |

|  |  |  |
|---|---|---|
| ADVENT | BAUBLES | BUSINESS |
| CASH | DEBIT | DRAWINGS |
| ELF | FESTIVE | GIFT |
| HOLLY | INVOICE | LOSS |
| OWNER | PROFIT | SANTA |

Hidden message:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

2. Santa has received an invoice for the sugar that the elves used to make candy canes. It shows a unit price per kg of £1.17. The quantity purchased was 6,000kg. As a valued customer, Santa gets a trade discount of 10%. Santa wants to take advantage of an additional discount of 4% being offered for prompt payment of the invoice. How much will Santa pay if the invoice is paid promptly?

3. Earlier this year, the accounts department at the North Pole recruited a trainee book-keeper elf called Jingle. Unfortunately, a few errors have been made by Jingle. Can you match the description of the error to the name of the error?

| Description of the error | Name of the error |
|---|---|
| When tidying her desk at the end of the week, Jingle found an invoice that had fallen on the floor behind a Christmas tree and had therefore not been recorded | Reversal of entries |
| Jingle posted the depreciation for the year for Santa's sleigh as £15,300 instead of the correct figure of £13,500 | Duplication Error |
| Jingle got in a muddle with debits and credits and posted a payment of an electricity invoice as<br>Debit   Bank<br>Credit   Electricity | Error of omission |
| A new machine for the toy workshop was purchased. The debit posting was incorrectly recorded in the General Expenses account rather than the Workshop Machinery account | Error of original entry/ transcription |
| Jingle posted a general journal for drawings twice | Error of principle |

4. A market trader sells mince pies, Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings, all of which he buys in from local bakeries. He'd like to know how much profit he's made in the first week in December. He's provided the following information:

|  | £ |
|---|---|
| Sales revenue | 4,170 |
| Purchases | 2,950 |
| Returns inwards | 100 |
| Returns outwards | 240 |
| Inventory at the start of the week | 0 |
| Inventory at the end of the week | 525 |
| Rent of the market stall | 700 |
| Advertising and promotion | 215 |
| Electricity | 65 |
| Travel costs | 90 |

Calculate the profit for the week

5. On Christmas Eve, Santa leaves his workshop in the North Pole to deliver presents to all the good children. In which direction does he travel first?
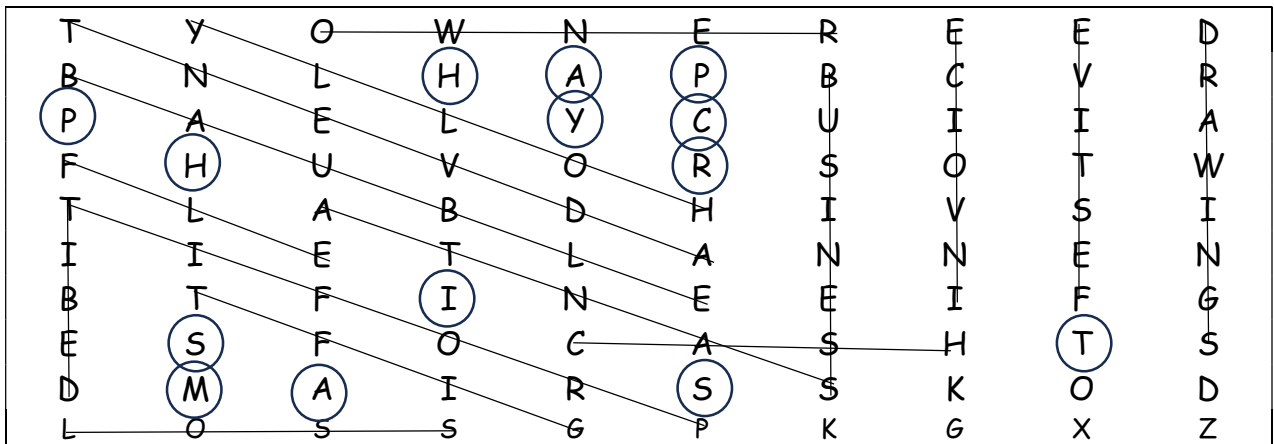
6. Find the words that answer the clues given, and the first letter of each word will spell out (down the first column) a Christmassy animal…

| Clue | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| The statement that compares the bank statement to the cash book balance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| An internal stakeholder group | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The name of the report that calculates 'profit for the year' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Assets that include machinery, vehicles and equipment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A double entry posting for expenses and assets | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A mistake in the accounts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examples are rent, depreciation, discount allowed and stationery | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A note sent by a customer to inform a business that an invoice has been paid | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

7. If Santa's five elves take five minutes to make five dolls, how long would it take 100 elves to make 100 dolls?

# Answers:

## Question 1

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | Y | O | W | N | E | R | E | E | D |
| B | N | L | (H) | (A) | (P) | B | C | V | R |
| (P) | A | E | L | (Y) | (C) | U | I | I | A |
| F | (H) | U | V | O | (R) | S | O | T | W |
| T | L | A | B | D | H | I | V | S | I |
| I | I | E | T | L | A | N | N | E | N |
| B | T | F | (I) | N | E | E | I | F | G |
| E | (S) | F | O | C | A | S | H | (T) | S |
| D | (M) | (A) | I | R | (S) | S | K | O | D |
| L | O | S | S | G | P | K | G | X | Z |

The hidden message is: Happy Christmas!

## Question 2

Total amount (before discounts) = £1.17 per kg x 6,000kg = £7,020

First, deduct the trade discount: Trade discount = 10% x £7,020 = £702

Total amount (after trade discount) = £7,020 - £702 = £6,318

Second, deduct the cash discount: Cash discount = 4% x £6,318 = £252.72

Total amount (after trade and cash discount) = £6,318 - £252.72 = **£6,065.28**

## Question 3

| Description of the error | Name of the error |
|---|---|
| When tidying her desk at the end of the week, Jingle found an invoice that had fallen on the floor behind a Christmas tree and had therefore not been recorded | Reversal of entries |
| Jingle posted the depreciation for the year for Santa's sleigh as £15,300 instead of the correct figure of £13,500 | Duplication Error |
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| A new machine for the toy workshop was purchased. The debit posting was incorrectly recorded in the General Expenses account rather than the Workshop Machinery account | Error of original entry/ transcription |
| Jingle posted a general journal for drawings twice | Error of principle |

Question 4

|  | £ | £ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sales revenue | | | 4,170 |
| Returns inwards | | | 100 |
| | | | 4,070 |
| Inventory at the start of the week | | 0 | |
| Purchases | 2,950 | | |
| Returns outwards | 240 | | |
| Net purchases | | 2,710 | |
| Inventory at the end of the week | | 525 | |
| Cost of Sales | | | 2,185 |
| Gross Profit | | | 1,885 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Rent of the market stall | | 700 | |
| Advertising and promotion | | 215 | |
| Electricity | | 65 | |
| Travel costs | | 90 | |
| | | | 1,070 |
| Profit for the week | | | 815 |

Question 5

The only direction you can travel from the North Pole is south!

Question 6

| The statement that compares the bank statement to the cash book balance | R | E | C | O | N | C | I | L | I | A | T | I | O | N |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| An internal stakeholder group | E | M | P | L | O | Y | E | E | S | | | | | |
| The name of the report that calculates 'profit for the year' | I | N | C | O | M | E | S | T | A | T | E | M | E | N | T |
| Assets that include machinery, vehicles and equipment | N | O | N | C | U | R | R | E | N | T | | | | |
| A double entry posting for expenses and assets | D | E | B | I | T | | | | | | | | | |
| A mistake in the accounts | E | R | R | O | R | | | | | | | | | |

| Examples are rent, depreciation, discount allowed and stationery | **E** | X | P | E | N | S | E | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A note sent by a customer to inform a business that an invoice has been paid | **R** | E | M | I | T | T | A | N | C | E |

The first letter of each word, when read down the first column, spells out REINDEER

Question 7

If Santa's five elves take five minutes to make five dolls, how long would it take 100 elves to make 100 dolls?

This one needs a bit of thought…

To keep things a bit simpler, let's refer to the 5 minutes as 'The Time'

In The Time, 5 elves make 5 dolls

In The Time, 1 elf would be able to make 1 doll

Therefore, in The Time, 100 elves would be able to make 100 dolls.

So, the answer is that it takes **5 minutes** for 100 elves to make 100 dolls