New Year’s Trivia for Seniors

Name _____

1. In which city does a lighted ball drop in Times Square at midnight on New Year’s Eve?

A. Chicago
B. New York City
C. Boston

2. In which year did the first ball drop in Times Square?

A. 1955
B. 1880
C. 1907

3. Which old Scottish song is sung at midnight on New Year’s Eve?

A. Greensleeves
B. Auld Lang Syne
C. Danny Boy

4. Which poet wrote down the words of “Auld Lang Syne” in 1788?

A. Robert Burns
B. Lord Byron
C. Walter Scott

5. What does “auld lang syne” roughly mean?

A. Raise your glasses
B. Times long past
C. Happy new year

6. Which bandleader's New Year's Eve broadcasts made "Auld Lang Syne" famous in America?

A. Guy Lombardo
B. Lawrence Welk
C. Glenn Miller

7. Who created TV's "New Year's Rockin' Eve" in Times Square?

A. Ed Sullivan
B. Johnny Carson
C. Dick Clark

8. Which parade of flower-covered floats is held in Pasadena on New Year's Day?

A. The Rose Parade
B. The Mummers Parade
C. The Tulip Parade

9. Which college football game is played in Pasadena after that parade?

A. The Cotton Bowl
B. The Rose Bowl
C. The Orange Bowl

10. Which city's Mummers Parade fills the streets on New Year's Day?

A. Philadelphia
B. Pittsburgh
C. Baltimore

11. Which Southern dish of black-eyed peas and rice is eaten on New Year’s Day for luck?

A. Hoppin’ John
B. Jambalaya
C. Gumbo

12. In Spain, how many grapes do people eat as the clock strikes midnight?

A. Three
B. Twelve
C. Seven

13. January is named after Janus, the Roman god of what?

A. Beginnings and doorways
B. The sea
C. The harvest

14. How many faces does Janus usually have in Roman art?

A. Four
B. Three
C. Two

15. What do the Scots call New Year’s Eve?

A. Burns Night
B. Twelfth Night
C. Hogmanay

16. Which calendar, set up by a pope in 1582, do most countries use today?

A. The Julian calendar
B. The Gregorian calendar
C. The Roman calendar

17. In which year did Britain and its American colonies move New Year's Day to January 1?

A. 1752
B. 1800
C. 1620

18. Which sparkling wine is the classic drink for a New Year's toast?

A. Sherry
B. Champagne
C. Port

19. In old cartoons a baby stands for the new year. Who stands for the old year?

A. Father Time
B. Jack Frost
C. Old King Cole

20. In which city is a famous New Year's Day concert of Strauss waltzes played?

A. London
B. Paris
C. Vienna

Answer Key

1. **B.** New York City
2. **C.** 1907
3. **B.** Auld Lang Syne
4. **A.** Robert Burns
5. **B.** Times long past
6. **A.** Guy Lombardo
7. **C.** Dick Clark
8. **A.** The Rose Parade
9. **B.** The Rose Bowl
10. **A.** Philadelphia
11. **A.** Hoppin’ John
12. **B.** Twelve
13. **A.** Beginnings and doorways
14. **C.** Two
15. **C.** Hogmanay
16. **B.** The Gregorian calendar
17. **A.** 1752
18. **B.** Champagne
19. **A.** Father Time
20. **C.** Vienna

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