

Mariah Carey Xmas hit number 1 after 25 years

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American singer Mariah Carey has reached number one in the U.S. music charts with her classic song "All I Want For Christmas Is You". It is not unusual for a festive song to be the best seller at Christmas, but Carey's famous song was first released 25 years ago. When the song first came out in 1994, it

was on a record with several other songs. This meant it was not allowed to compete in Billboard's Hot 100 chart. Rules have been changed over the years. Carey's song has got near number one several times since 1994. The singer said she was very happy her song finally hit the top spot. She tweeted: "We did it". The song is also currently the most streamed song in the U.K. on the music streaming service Spotify.

Mariah Carey was born in 1969. She is a singer, songwriter, actress, record producer, and entrepreneur. She is now the solo artist with the most ever number ones in the U.S. chart. She is one behind The Beatles, who had 20 number ones. The Guinness World Records book called her the "Songbird Supreme". She has a unique voice and can sing in five different octaves. Her song "All I Want For Christmas Is You" is famous worldwide. It has become an essential tune at Christmas parties and family get-togethers. Wikipedia said: "The track is an up-tempo love song that includes bell chimes, heavy back-up vocals, and synthesizers....It is the most played holiday song in modern history."

Sources: nme.com / wikipedia.org / bbc.com

Writing

"All I Want For Christmas Is You" is the best ever Christmas song. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

number one / music / chart / festive / famous / 1994 / singer / happy / streaming / 1969 / actress / entrepreneur / unique / worldwide / family get-togethers / history

True / False

- a) Mariah Carey's Christmas song is number one all across the world. T / F
- b) "All I Want For Christmas Is You" was first released in 1994. T / F
- c) Mariah Carey tweeted that was "satisfied" about being number one. T / F
- d) The article said the song is number 1 in the UK on iTunes. T / F
- e) Mariah Carey is in her fifties. T / F
- f) Only The Beatles have had more U.S. number ones than Mariah Carey. T / F
- g) Mariah Carey can sing across seven octaves. T / F
- h) Wikipedia said Ms Carey's song has soft and peaceful back-up vocals. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. reached | a. well-known |
| 2. unusual | b. permitted |
| 3. released | c. businesswoman |
| 4. allowed | d. presently |
| 5. currently | e. harmonies |
| 6. entrepreneur | f. strange |
| 7. unique | g. necessary |
| 8. famous | h. got to |
| 9. essential | i. one-of-a-kind |
| 10. vocals | j. issued |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Would you prefer to be a singer, actor or entrepreneur?
- c) Would you prefer to be a solo artist or lead singer in a band?
- d) What do you like singing?
- e) How good is your singing voice?
- f) What do you think of Christmas parties?
- g) What instruments should always be on a Christmas song?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Mariah Carey?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. reached number one in | a. voice |
| 2. it was on a record with | b. modern history |
| 3. Rules have been changed | c. song in the U.K. |
| 4. her song finally hit the | d. togethers |
| 5. the most streamed | e. several other songs |
| 6. solo | f. Christmas parties |
| 7. She has a unique | g. the U.S. music charts |
| 8. an essential tune at | h. artist |
| 9. family get- | i. top spot |
| 10. the most played holiday song in | j. over the years |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about Mariah Carey?
- What is your favourite Christmas Song?
- Are modern or traditional Christmas songs best?
- Should Christmas songs be about Jesus?
- What is the most important thing about Christmas?
- What do you think of Christmas songs?
- How does singing Christmas songs make you feel?
- What are your plans for Christmas?

Spelling

- reechad number one
- her csisalc song
- a etsievf song
- on a record with avrllsee other songs
- allowed to ompceet
- runelrtyc the most streamed song
- record rprudeco
- She has a quenui voice
- an tnsalesei tune at Christmas parties
- The track is an pu-topem love song
- heavy back-up ovlcas
- in mroden history

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. f	3. j	4. b	5. d
6. c	7. i	8. a	9. g	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Socks

You think socks are the best Christmas present. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wireless ear pods, books or a donation to charity.

Role B – Wireless Ear Pods

You think wireless ear pods are the best Christmas present. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): socks, books or a donation to charity.

Role C – Books

You think books are the best Christmas present. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wireless ear pods, socks or a donation to charity.

Role D – A Donation To Charity

You think a donation to charity is the best Christmas present. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wireless ear pods, books or socks.

Speaking – Xmas presents

Rank these with your partner. Put the best presents at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Socks
- Adidas trainers
- Lots of books
- Clothes
- iTunes vouchers
- Donate the money to charity
- Expensive chocolates
- Wireless ear pods

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.