

### Christmas and New Year Tense Review Mimes

Choose one of the actions below and mime it. Can they guess what you are doing? ("Are you ...?")

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| visiting people   | shopping                                |
| doing a spring clean  | watching a film (= a movie)             |
| watching TV   | skating                                 |
| skiing  | sledging                                |
| cracking nuts   | pulling crackers                        |
| carving a roast (e.g. a roast turkey)                                   | telling jokes                           |
| eating sweets (= candy)   | eating grapes                           |
| putting up Christmas decorations  | going for a walk                        |
| decorating a Christmas tree   | arguing                                 |
| ripping (= tearing) the wrapping paper off a gift (= opening a present) |   |
| writing Christmas cards   | linking arms and singing Auld Lang Syne |
| praying   | giving a toast                          |
| putting on a paper party hat  | eating/ drinking soup                   |
| singing Christmas carols (= religious Christmas songs)                  | make an offering of food and/ or drink  |
| knocking on neighbours' doors and singing carols to them                |   |
| playing a musical instrument  |   |
| making a snowman  |   |
| throwing snowballs  |   |
| opening a bottle of champagne   |   |
| cutting a cake into slices  |   |
| pouring gravy on your dinner  |   |
| putting some meat into the oven   |   |
| lighting a firework   |   |
| watching fireworks  |   |
| working   |   |
| travelling by train   |   |
| dressing up in a Santa Claus costume                                    |   |
| kissing someone   |   |
| hanging up a stocking (=a large sock)                                   |   |
| putting gifts into a stocking   |   |
| putting gifts into a shoe   |   |
| eating fish   |   |
| lighting candles.   |   |
| putting decorations on a cake.  |   |

*Continue the same game, but shouting "Stop" when you are sure what action it was and guessing with the past sentence "When I shouted 'stop', were you...?"*

*Continue the same game, but with the person guessing the sentence not looking at the list above*

*Continue, but with other Xmas actions*

*Choose one of the things above and give your partner clues about which one you are thinking about by telling them about you and that thing in the past, e.g. "I have done this once or twice" "I didn't do this last Xmas" "I last did this 3 weeks ago"*

*Continue, but with other things you typically do at Xmas.*

*Why do we use the Past Continuous ("You were kissing people" = was/were + ing) for the past mimes, but the Present Perfect ("I have never kissed someone on Xmas Day" = has/ have + past participle) and the Simple Past ("I last kissed someone 10 minutes ago" = single verb, followed by +ed when regular) for the other statements.*

*Which tense or tenses are used with each of the following time clauses?*

Twice (in my life)

At this time last year

When my mother came in and interrupted me

On Xmas Day

2 years ago

2 years before

When the clock struck 12 (*three tenses possible*)