

# Jan 5 News Quiz

## 1. When Does Ukraine Celebrate Christmas?

- December 25th.
- January 7th.
- February 29th.

## 2. How Did Russia Greet Ukraine in the Early Hours of the New Year 2024?

- With festive fireworks display over Kyiv.
- By launching a record 90 drone attacks.
- Sending a giant "Happy New Year" banner over Donetsk.

## 3. Under What Specific Conditions Did Pope Francis Say Priests Could Bless LGBTQ Couples?

- Only if the couple promises to attend church every Sunday.
- If the couple agrees to take part in a reality TV show about their lives.
- If the blessings are not part of regular Church rituals or services.

## 4. Which Film Had the Biggest December 25 Debut Ever?

- "Frozen 2"
- "The Color Purple"
- "Sherlock Holmes"

## 5. Why Did Apple Pause Sales of Its Series 9 And Ultra 2 Smartwatches in the United States Before Christmas 2023?

- To update the software for a surprise New Year's feature.
- Due to a patent dispute over the blood oxygen feature.
- As part of a marketing strategy to boost post-holiday sales.

## 6. What Is 'Zombie Deer Disease'?

- Chronic Wasting Disease affecting deer, elk, and moose.
- A fictional disease from a horror movie.
- A rare condition that turns deer into nocturnal creatures.

## 7. Which New Feature Is Amazon Prime Video Rolling Out in 2024?

- 3D Hologram Celebrity Shows.
- Time Travel Tuesdays with Historical Documentaries.
- Ads.

## 8. What 2024 Event Connects Mickey and Minnie Mouse with Tigger?

- They were all featured in "Wish."
- They started a band together.
- They entered the public domain, allowing creative uses without permission.

## 9. Who's Record Was Broken by Taylor Swift's "1989 (Taylor's Version)" Album?

- Doja Cat's record for the most cat references in a pop album.
- Elvis's record for most weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard album chart by a solo artist.
- The Beatles' legendary 132-week reign at the top of the Billboard album chart.

## 10. After Queen Elizabeth II Died, Who's Europe's Longest-Serving Monarch?

- Queen Margrethe II of Denmark.
- King Harald V of Norway.
- King Julien XIII of Madagascar.

## 11. Who's in This "Thirst Tap" Picture?

- Helen Mirren.
- Martha Stewart.
- Meryl Streep.



## 12. Whose Statue Is This?

- Shakira, the Colombian Hip-Shaking Sensation.
- Beyoncé, Queen of Pop and Hip Swivel.
- Celine Dion, with a Heart That Goes On and On.



# ANSWERS

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## 1. When Does Ukraine Celebrate Christmas?

- ❑ December 25th, joining the global Secret Santa exchange.

In a move more surprising than finding out your secret Santa is actually Santa, [Ukraine officially shifted its Christmas celebration to December 25th in 2023](#). This historic change, [signed into law by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in July 2023](#), marked a significant departure from the traditional January 7th date, aligned with the Russian Orthodox Church's calendar. The decision was a statement of cultural identity and national autonomy amidst the ongoing conflict with Russia.

## 2. How Did Russia Greet Ukraine in the Early Hours of the New Year 2024?

- ❑ By launching a record 90 drone attacks.

In a rather grim start to the New Year, Russia marked Jan. 1, 2024, by [launching a record number of 90 Shahed-type drones over Ukraine](#). Ukrainian forces intercepted most of these drones, but [debris from a downed drone in Odesa led to the death of a 15-year-old boy](#) and injuries to several others. [A museum in Lviv was severely damaged](#), and university buildings in Dubliany were also affected.

## 3. Under What Specific Conditions Did Pope Francis Say Priests Could Bless LGBTQ Couples?

- ❑ If the blessings are not part of regular Church rituals or services.

In a landmark decision that reflects Pope Francis' pastoral vision for a more inclusive Church, the Vatican announced on Dec. 18, 2023, that [Roman Catholic priests can administer blessings to same-sex couples](#). However, there's a catch: [these blessings must be given only if they are not part of regular Church rituals or liturgies](#). This means that while the church extends a hand of welcome, it's careful not to blur the lines with the traditional sacrament of marriage. This decision marks a significant step in Pope Francis' efforts to make the church more welcoming to LGBTQ individuals.

## 4. Which Film Had the Biggest December 25 Debut Ever?

- ❑ "The Color Purple"

On Dec. 25, 2009, "Sherlock Holmes" didn't just solve mysteries; it broke records! Directed by Guy Ritchie and starring Robert Downey Jr. as the iconic detective, [the film raked in \\$24.6 million on its opening day, Christmas Day](#). This made it the biggest Dec. 25 release ever. Its

record stays unbeaten, with "The Color Purple" (2023) [coming in second](#) with an impressive \$18 million Christmas day opening, but not enough to dethrone the detective.

### 5. Why Did Apple Pause Sales of Its Series 9 And Ultra 2 Smartwatches in the United States Before Christmas 2023?

- ❑ Due to a patent dispute over the blood oxygen feature.

In a twist that's more legal drama than tech thriller, Apple announced it would [pause sales of its Series 9 and Ultra 2 smartwatches in the United States starting Dec. 21, 2023, online and Dec. 24 in stores](#). This decision came after [the International Trade Commission ruled in October 2023 that these models infringed on patents held by Masimo](#), a medical technology company, specifically the blood oxygen feature used to detect people's pulse rate. On Dec. 25, [an appeals court temporarily paused enforcement of that ruling](#) while the legal fight ensues.

### 6. What Is 'Zombie Deer Disease'?

- ❑ Chronic Wasting Disease affecting deer, elk, and moose.

['Zombie Deer Disease' is a colloquial term for Chronic Wasting Disease \(CWD\)](#), a neurological disorder that affects deer, elk, and moose. First identified in Colorado in 1967, [CWD has since spread to numerous US states and other countries](#). The disease causes symptoms like weight loss, lack of coordination, and drooling, [making animals appear zombie-like](#). Currently, there have been no confirmed cases of CWD transmitted to humans. However, scientists warn of its potential as a "slow-moving disaster" for human health.

### 7. Which New Feature Is Amazon Prime Video Rolling Out in January 2024 in the US And February in the UK?

- ❑ Ads.

In a move that might make you miss the good old days of ad-free binge-watching, [Amazon Prime Video is introducing ads into its streaming service starting Jan. 29, 2024, in the US and Feb. 5, 2024, in the UK](#). For those who prefer their drama without commercial cliffhangers, there's an option to keep the screen ad-free - but it comes with a price tag. In the US, viewers can avoid ads by paying an extra \$2.99 monthly, while [UK viewers must shell out £2.99 per month](#).

### 8. What 2024 Event Connects Mickey and Minnie Mouse with Tigger from "The House at Pooh Corner"?

- ❑ They entered the public domain, allowing creative uses without permission.

In 2024, the earliest versions of [Mickey and Minnie Mouse, as depicted in "Steamboat Willie," along with Tigger](#) from "The House at Pooh Corner," [entered the public domain](#). This happened after [their 95-year copyright term expired](#). Entering the [public domain](#) means that these characters can now be used in new creative works without permission from Disney or the rights holders.

### 9. Who's Record Was Broken by Taylor Swift's "1989 (Taylor's Version)" Album?

- ❑ Elvis's record for most weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard album chart by a solo artist.

Taylor Swift's "1989 (Taylor's Version)" played a crucial role in [breaking the record for most weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard album chart by a solo artist](#). In 2023's final week, this album's No. 1 spot contributed to Swift's total of 68 weeks at the chart's top. This [surpasses the previous record held by Elvis Presley, who had 67 weeks at No. 1](#). The Beatles still hold [the overall record with 132 weeks at No. 1](#).

### 10. After Queen Elizabeth II of Britain Died in September 2022, Who Took the Crown as the Longest-Serving Monarch in Europe?

- ❑ Queen Margrethe II of Denmark - A seasoned monarch with a flair for archaeology.

After the passing of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, [Queen Margrethe II ascended to the title of longest-serving monarch in Europe](#). Following her father's death, [she began her reign on Jan. 14, 1972](#). This means that by the time she announced her abdication on Dec. 31, 2023, [she had been on the throne for 52 years](#). As of Jan. 14, 2024, [her son, Frederik](#), will carry the royal torch.

### 11. Who's in This "Thirst Tap" Picture?

- ❑ Martha Stewart, the Thirst Trap Queen at 82.

On Dec. 29, 2023, Martha Stewart, at 82, posted a [mirror selfie on Instagram](#), displaying her in a silver nightgown after a trip from Westchester to Palm Beach. This post is part of [a series of 'thirst traps'](#) Stewart has shared, starting with a viral pool selfie in July 2020. ["Thirst trap"](#) refers to a photo shared on social media to attract attention through seductiveness. Martha Stewart's "thirst trap" photos typically feature her in poses or outfits that challenge traditional notions of age and attractiveness.

### 12. Whose Statue Is This?

- ❑ Shakira, the Colombian Hip-Shaking Sensation.

On Dec. 26, 2023, [a nearly 21-foot-tall \(6.5 meters\) bronze statue of Shakira was unveiled in her hometown of Barranquilla](#), Colombia. This statue, [capturing her iconic hip-swiveling dance move](#), pays tribute to the singer's roots and global impact. Shakira, known for her distinct blend of Latin, rock, and pop music, began her journey to stardom with her hip-shaking moves as a child in Barranquilla. The statue's unveiling marked a high point in a year when Shakira made headlines for her music and personal life. She was involved in a tax fraud case in Spain, [where she settled by paying a €7.5m fine to avoid a trial](#). She also released a song about her former partner, ex-footballer Gerard Piqué, [which broke YouTube records in Latin America](#).