



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Christmas Lights 圣诞灯彩

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Who's Turning Your Town's On? 谁来为城市点燃彩灯?

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

As Christmas approaches, towns and cities around the UK are preparing for a **peculiarly** British celebration.

The **switching on** of a town's Christmas lights has become an increasingly competitive event over the years, with some **councils** spending lots of money to attract **A-list celebrities** to **do the honours**.

The American singer Mariah Carey flew to London in November to switch on the lights at one of the city's biggest shopping centres, while Jim Carrey **illuminated** Oxford Street and **promoted** his new film at the same time.

The historic English city of Bath was **brought to a standstill** as thousands of fans **flocked** to see the Hollywood actor Nicolas Cage conduct the switching-on ceremony.

However, some celebrations do not go according to plan as was seen in Birmingham when dozens of people were injured in a **crowd surge** as the famous British **boy band** JLS took the stage.

Not all towns can afford to bring in an internationally-known star, so many switch-on ceremonies are handled by ex-**TV talent show** contestants.

The hit TV programme the X Factor has supplied many smaller **municipalities** with a **low-budget celebrity** like Chico, a singer who reached the **quarter-finals** of that show back in 2005.

Pantomime stars are also much in demand at this time of year, as they **endeavour** to promote their Christmas shows.

But if your council hasn't got the **budget** to bring in a famous face, what are the cheaper alternatives?

A town in the west of England chose to let the public decide by submitting their suggestions online. The result: a 21-year-old DIY store worker was given the **prestigious duty**.

"I was amazed and delighted to be asked," said Scott Parker, "it's just a **privilege** and not something I'd ever thought about before."



Glossary 词汇表

peculiarly 奇特地	switching on 点燃(灯火)
councils 地方议会/政府	A-list celebrities 一流名人
do the honours 剪彩/掌灯 (等荣耀)	illuminated 点燃
promoted 宣传	brought to a standstill 导致 (交通) 堵塞
flocked 簇拥	crowd surge (人群) 蜂拥而上
boy band 男子乐队	TV talent show 电视才艺秀
municipalities 直辖政府	low-budget celebrity 酬劳不高的三流明星
quarter-finals 四分之一决赛	pantomime 圣诞童话闹剧
endeavour 尝试	budget 开支
prestigious duty 荣耀的责任	privilege 特权

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. Councils pay for celebrities to switch on the Christmas lights. **True / False**
2. Mariah Carey came to Bath to do the ceremony. **True / False**
3. Some people were hurt at the Birmingham switching on. **True / False**
4. Pantomime stars also sometimes appear at events like this. **True / False**
5. Scott Parker is a famous actor and singer. **True / False**

2. Label the pictures 标注图片

Look at the pictures below. Do you know what these items are? Write the name of the object underneath the picture.

请看下列图片。你知道这些是什么物品吗？请将物品名称写在图片下面。



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

Santa Claus	reindeer	stocking	holly
bells	bauble	snowman	Christmas tree

3. Jumbled Sentences 打乱词序的句子

Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列，组成一个正确的句子。

1. lights towns a famous British person to Many turn invite on the.

2. attend Hollywood cities usually a big Big star to the have event.

3. can be ceremony crowd at There this kind of problems.

4. people are to usually Less asked do famous the on at smaller switch towns.

5. is a in town lights pantomime the If actors will usually turn there on the.

6. one town ceremony a local In was worker for shop the selected.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with Christmas in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与圣诞节有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

a	p	r	e	s	e	n	t	s	d	r	d
l	u	j	h	g	t	d	s	e	c	g	e
c	w	e	f	t	g	i	f	t	b	y	c
r	e	h	b	t	y	h	r	f	s	r	o
a	b	o	h	y	b	z	o	d	n	r	r
c	m	l	r	v	g	t	s	d	o	r	a
k	f	l	v	b	g	t	t	e	w	s	t
e	f	y	o	i	j	h	t	d	s	e	i
r	e	r	f	b	s	l	e	e	t	b	o
e	r	v	i	g	t	d	w	a	c	g	n
j	u	b	c	a	r	d	v	f	t	d	s
w	e	r	e	b	t	f	s	x	e	k	i

snow	present	holly	card	gift
decorations	cracker	ice	frost	sleet

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

- Councils pay for celebrities to switch on the Christmas lights. **True**
- Mariah Carey came to Bath to do the ceremony. **False**
- Some people were hurt at the Birmingham switching on. **True**
- Pantomime stars also sometimes appear at events like this. **True**
- Scott Parker is a famous actor and singer. **False**

3. Jumbled Sentences 打乱词序的句子

Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列, 组成一个正确的句子。

- Many British towns invite a famous person to turn on the lights.
- Big cities usually have a big Hollywood star to attend the event.
- There can be crowd problems at this kind of ceremony.
- Less famous people are usually asked to do the switch on at smaller towns.
- If there is a pantomime in town the actors will usually turn on the lights.
- In one town a local shop worker was selected for the ceremony.

2. Label the pictures 标注图片

Look at the pictures below. Do you know what these items are? Write the name of the object underneath the picture.

请看下列图片。你知道这些是什么物品吗? 请将物品名称写在图片下面。

- stocking
- Christmas tree
- bells
- holly
- bauble
- Santa Claus
- snowman
- reindeer

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

	p	r	e	s	e	n	t				d
											e
c					g	i	f	t			c
r		h					r		s		o
a		o					o		n		r
c		l					s		o		a
k		l					t		w		t
e		y									i
r					s	l	e	e	t		o
			i								n
			c	a	r	d					s
			e								