



# Fun Facts about Holiday Songs

## Post-video Worksheet

Choose one of the following activities to complete after watching the Bakersfield Symphony Holiday Songs video.

### Option 1 – Research

Choose one of the songs from the video and do some research about that song. Write a paragraph describing the song's origin and history, providing more in-depth information than presented in the video.

### Option 2 – Creative Writing

Pick ONE of the following prompts to write about.

- Write an interview with Rudolph about his new song, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." (Include questions about his first claim to fame, the Montgomery Ward coloring books).
- Write a letter from the sparrow in Shchedryk (the original version of Carol of the Bells) to Peter J. Wilhousky (the American composer who re-wrote the lyrics and made it a holiday song). The letter should convey the sparrow's feelings about the new words. (You may need to look up the lyrics to the song).
- Write a letter from a British soldier who participated in the Christmas Truce during World War I, telling his family about what that Christmas was like.
- Re-write the words to "Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow" to be about Los Angeles on the hottest day of the year (as that's when it was actually written). NOTE: if you do this, you should be able to sing the song using your lyrics. If you don't know how the song goes, you probably shouldn't pick this prompt.

### Option 3 – Art

Pick one of the songs mentioned in the video (see the list below, if you don't remember), and find a recording of that song on YouTube (or Spotify or Apple Music or your parents' old Christmas CD or whatever you have access to). While listening to the song, draw a picture of the song. The picture can depict what the lyrics are talking about or just the general feeling of the song.

### Option 4 – Opinion

What is your favorite holiday song? It can be one of the songs listed below OR one that was not mentioned in the video. Why is that your favorite? Write a paragraph describing your opinion.

### Christmas Songs from Video:

The Nutcracker Ballet  
Good King Wenceslas  
O Holy Night  
Carol of the Bells  
Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer  
Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow  
Silent Night  
O Come all ye Faithful  
Jingle Bells