

A CHRISTMAS TALE



SANTA IN DISTRESS

for elementary
learners of English



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Santa in distress

A mobile phone is ringing. The ringtone is “It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas”. The teacher walks into the classroom to pick up the phone. Santa Claus is crying in the corner of the room. The teacher walks near him.

Teacher: Hello! Who are you?

Santa: (crying) I’m Santa Claus.

Teacher: What? Santa Claus!! My goodness!! Children!! Children! Come here, quick.. Hurry up! (the children walk into the classroom) Look!

Children: It’s Santa Claus!! Hi Santa!

Santa: Hello! (goes on crying)

Child: Are you sad?

Santa: Yes, I am.

Child: Why are you sad?

Santa: Because it’s Christmas time!

Child: I like Christmas!

Child: I like Christmas presents!

Child: I like playing!

Child: I like Christmas decorations!

Child: I like the Christmas tree!

Santa: Me too! (goes on crying)

Child: So, why are you sad?

Santa: Because it’s Christmas!! (goes on crying)

Child: I love Christmas!

Child: I love Christmas dinner!

Child: I love Christmas sweets!

Child: Christmas is fantastic!

Santa: Yes, it is. It is wonderful! (sobbing)

Child: Why are you so sad then?

Santa: You see, I like presents and playing and Christmas decorations and the Christmas tree..
(crying)

Child: Why are you crying then?

Santa: Because I work at Christmas! No presents, no playing, no Christmas dinner! Nothing for me!
Nothing!

Children: That's terrible!

Child: Have you got a Christmas tree?

Santa: No! (goes on crying)

Children: That's tragic!

Child: Have you got a Christmas stocking?

Santa: No! I don't have anything! (crying loudly)

Child: But that's impossible. You must have something. Come on! Think! Think! What have you got?

Santa: Well, I have a sleigh and some reindeer.

Child: Wow! A sleigh!! That's so cool!

Child: And look at this reindeer! Look at his nose!
It's red!

Children: Rudolf!!!! (they all go near and hug him, then go back to Santa)

Child: You are so lucky to have a sleigh and reindeer! They are amazing!!

Santa: (feeling a little better) Yes they are..

Child: Come here Santa! You can take this Christmas tree.

Child: Take these lights too!

Child: This Christmas stocking is for you!

Child: And these bells!

Child: And this snowman! Here you are!

Santa: Oh!! Thank you!! Thank you very much! You are so good! (smiling)

Children: We love you Santa!

Child: Are you happy now?

Santa: (laughing loudly) Ho, ho, ho! Yes I am!! Thank you dear children. Your love is the best present in the world!! Now, I will never be sad again! And I love you too!!

Children: (they hug and kiss Santa) Let's sing! (singing "Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer" and "Jingle Bells")

Teacher: We wish you a merry Christmas and happy holidays!

Child: Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

THE END

Questions for reading comprehension and further speaking practice:

1. Is Santa Claus happy?
2. Why does he feel this way?
3. Who makes him feel happy?
4. What do the children give him?
5. Which is the best present in the world for him?
6. Do you ever feel sad during Christmas time? If yes, why are you sad?
7. Have you ever wished you got a present that you know you couldn't have?
8. Who or what makes you feel happy?
9. Which is the best present in the world for you?
10. If you could wish for three things for Christmas, what would they be?

