

14	24	17	4	22	19
7	16	9	21	23	12
20	1	15	8	2	18
6	13	10	3	11	5

Barclaycard
'Win an Easier Xmas'
Poem

Final draft



barclaycard
christmas. easier.

INTRO:

'Twas the month before Christmas, and all through the house,
Every creature was fretting, (even the mouse,)
There was so much to do yet before the big day!
It being December and so... not far away!

How to complete all that had to be done?
But look now how an easier Christmas can be won.
What a grand idea, a prize each day!
To take all the stress of the season away.

Dec 1. – Tree delivered to your home

And so it began, on the First of December,
That to the family's front door came a Christmas tree
vendor.

He carried a tree that was bushy and bright,
Before standing it up... to reveal its great height.

A finer fir tree they never had seen,
Than this beautiful, long-lasting evergreen;
But the thing they liked most about the fine tree
Was that it was a prize and so totally free!

Dec 2 – Decorations in your home

By December the Second the whole house was aglow,
With tinsel and tassel and ribbon and bow.
The tree that was won just the day before,
Now stood elegantly dressed on the living room floor.

It glittered and sparkled with baubles and lights,
To create such a beautiful, festive sight!
For the finest shop-dressers had lightened the gloom.
And then, just for joy, had completed the room.

Dec 3. – Xmas food delivered to your home

On day number Three, men brought to the door
Hampers to feed the whole family and more:
All the food they'd require up until Christmas Day.
Some for saving till then, some to eat right away.

Now the larder was filled, as the children had heard.
Then over they ran as the mince pies emerged.
And so though the month had barely begun,
They began to feast, and... they ate every one.

Dec 4. – All your Xmas shopping done for you

December the Fourth and what have we here?
The children have noticed some presents appear.
Some tagged with their names! No doubt, all sorts of
toys.
Maybe doll-houses for girls and train-sets for boys?

There was no way of telling (oh what magnificent fun!)
As on each gift the wrapping was already done.
So until Christmas day there was nothing to see,
Just a pile of presents stacked under the tree.

Dec 5. – Limousine to take you shopping

On the Fifth Mum planned a trip, into town by the bus
With a mind to go shopping, oh what crowds and what
fuss!

But not for Mum for she'd won her very own limousine!
Which made getting around feel much more serene.

No need now to fight her way down the high street:
Just relax in the comfy leather back seat.

See, she's already at home. She can put up her feet,
And the limo can go; now her shopping's complete.

Dec 6. – Olly Murs carol singing in your house

The Sixth of December brought a beautiful sound,
That echoed through the house, and then all around.
For Hark! What's this noise! What do we have here?
Celebrity Singers to spread the good cheer!

So tender, so sweet, with one voice, they sang,
And all round the room their happy noise rang.
A beautiful sound, so clear and so bright,
Cutting clean through the air on this once silent night.

Dec 7. – A trip to Lapland

December the Seventh brings a prize that's so grand!
An one-day trip, to Santa's grotto... in Lapland!
And what's this they find, when there they arrive?
Can it be that these magical toys are alive!

But see now they've stopped. Must all the fun end?
Of course not! We'll get help from our little elfin friend,
Who'll wind up the toys for our girl and our boy.
Now see the children's delight, as they all dance for joy!

Dec 8. – Fake Snow in your house and garden

It's December the Eight! We're nearing the big night!
Yet there remains just one thing that's still not quite
right.

Oh if only the temperature would drop down below,
That point at which we'd be sure to see snow!

They hoped beyond hope and then, what do you know?
A sprinkle, a flourish and it did start to snow!
Each falling flake forming a carpet so white!
What a perfectly beautiful, Christmassy sight.

Dec 9. – Professional Cleaners

It's already day Nine, the season's truly set in,
Time to sort out the house, but where to begin?
What could be finer, than a team who can clean:
Restore the room to a state that's fit to be seen.

From dusting the mantle to shining the floor,
Polishing the windows, the brass and the door,
Sweeping and neatening till all's good as new.
Leaving our parents to relax, with nothing to do.

Dec 10. – Personalised, Handwritten Cards

The Tenth of December! It's already here!
In the season to spread all happiness and cheer,
So how better to send good wishes to most,
Than a handwritten card, to arrive in the post?

A long list is drawn up, Aunt Maude, don't forget her!
All those long lost relations, we'll pen them a letter.
And see how the hired scribe does so beautifully write
Round robins to each, and all through the night.

Dec 11. – New designer dress and accessories

December the Eleventh and just look at the clock!
Mother's barely had time to find a new frock.
For on Christmas Day it is nice to impress
Wearing something more special; a perfect new dress.

The problem's soon solved, a fine costume she wins!
And a sharp team of tailors who adjust with their pins.
For all stylists will say: a lady looks at her best,
Only once she's relaxed and devoid of all stress.

Dec 12. – Flights for two to anywhere

December the Twelfth and oh! such a pity,
To have grandparents abroad in a foreign city.
It seems such a shame if they can't come to stay.
But look now they're here, to share the big day!

For who's this in the hallway? A sight sure to please,
Nan and Gramps have arrived from far overseas!
They CAN come to stay! We DID make it right!
So how did they get here? Why, we won them the flight!

Dec 13. – New China and crystal tableware

On the Thirteenth of December they laid the oak table,
With freshly pressed linen as best they were able.
But maybe this year it warrants something a little finer?
Like a full service dinner set of finest new china.

And real silver cutlery that shines in the glare,
Of delicately cut new crystal glassware.
And when each setting was perfect, then last but not
least,
They carried in a magnificent new centerpiece.

Dec 14. – Celebrity Chef in your kitchen

On the Fourteenth of December the chef did arrive,
And without any ado into the kitchen did dive,
To prepare all the delights that the family would need,
When throughout the season they wanted to feed.

He made stuffing with sage and a crown turkey roast,
With all of the trimming that people love most,
Like parsnips and roasties and last but not least...
Figgy pudding, to complete the Christmassy feast.

Dec 15. – Bartender and party

It was the Fifteenth of December yet the family found
time,
To host a party with nibbles and hor d'euvres so fine.
But what is a Christmas without the chime and the clink,
Of champagne flutes? Where was the drink?

Well, they won for the soiree an expert bartender,
Who mixed seasonal drinks to add to the splendour:
Brandy and Eggnog, mulled wine and cold beer
And other wondrous concoctions, all filled with good
cheer.

Dec 16. – Massage and spa treatments

Christmas Day's creeping closer, it's the Sixteenth of
December,

Yet there still so much to do and so much to
remember.

Mum and Dad are exhausted, haven't stopped, not one
time,

Now it's time to relax, put their feet up, recline.

It's their turn to be pampered with warm healing hands,

And forget just a moment the season's demands,

Sink into their chairs while the pain rubs away:

Now they're better prepared to enjoy the big day

Dec 17. – Courier for late deliveries

On the Seventeenth day, Mum discovered too late
That she'd missed the very last posting date.
Oh! What will become of those toys still to send?
Might they not reach her nieces 'til past the year's-end?

But hark! A courier arrives! And without hesitation
Speeds off these last presents towards their
destination.
What relief! Now there'll be no tears and no misery,
For Christmas will include one last *special* delivery.

Dec 18. – New HDTV and Christmas DVDs

December the Eighteenth and what do we see?
The family all settled around the TV,
Cosy and comfortable, each wrapped up tight,
Settled down in front of the screen for the night.

And what a big screen! Just look at the scene...
A couple kiss in the snow, it's a wintry dream!
It's 'A Wonderful Life,' 'Santa,' 'Scrooge' and 'Elf,'
And other festive movies for their DVD shelf.

Dec 19. – Professional family portrait

The Nineteenth of December and it's time for a photo,
But who'll do the honours? Grandpa? Oh no!
Everyone comes out blurry, too dark or red-eyed.
Perhaps it's time for Grandpa to at last step aside,

And just let a professional behind the camera,
To take a fine photo that captures the glamour,
And sparkle he sees when he looks through the lens:
A heartwarming scene between family and friends.

Dec 20. – Babysitter and night out

On the Twentieth of December, with the children asleep,
Out of the house our parents shall creep,
For they've won a sitter, and (what could be more
sublime!)

The wonderful... precious... gift of free time.

So with no children in tow, out they will go,
With tickets in hand to their chosen show.
Sleeping Beauty for Mum, for she loves the ballet.
What a perfect finale to a fabulous day.

Dec 21. – Family board games

It's the night of the Twenty-First and, beginning to tire,
The family decide to stay in by the fire;
Take a break from the endless sticking and wrapping.
Soon Dad's in the corner quietly napping.

But the rest of the family are eager to play
For a crate of fun games was delivered today.
There's Charades and Draughts, plus so many more,
But how can anyone score highly when Dad starts to snore?

Dec 22. – Christmas pantomime tickets

December the Twenty Second and despite wintry
weather,
The family decide to spend some time together,
To venture outdoors, but oh where to go?
Well, just then they won tickets to a spectacular show.

A Christmas Pantomime! What a seasonal treat
With a perfect view from a front row seat!
And it made Mum and Dad just as pleased as can be,
To see their children's faces, all lit up with glee.

Dec 23. – Visit from Santa

The Twenty-third of December and what we have here?
The children are eager for St. Nick to appear.
They wait by the fireplace, watch the window, the hall,
Hoping to glimpse any sign of Santa at all.

They don't want to sleep, they are more than excited...
But at last off they drift, and who's this we have
sighted?
Can it be?! Can it be?! Santa there in their hall?!
Carrying fine presents for one and for all?!

Yes! They had won the best prize any family could own.
A visit from Santa, right there... in their home.

Dec 24. – £10,000 to your chosen charity

The Twenty-Fourth of December: Merry Christmas to all!

Yes everything's set! There's just one final call.
For who now, at last, behind the door should they see,
But those who are collecting for charity.

And see now how strong Christmas spirit can be!
The family find it easy to give generously.
For such giving's the essence, the whole true reason,
The heart, the soul...

The meaning of the season.