

CHAPTER 1

Phileas Fogg was a member of the Reform Club. He was an English gentleman. He didn't have a wife or children. He **fired** his only servant for bringing him water because it wasn't the right temperature.

It was October. Phileas Fogg sat in his house and waited for his new servant. There was a knock at the door. It was his new servant, Passepartout.

"You're a Frenchman, I believe," asked Phileas Fogg, "and your name is John?"

"My name is Jean Passepartout. I was a singer and a circus-rider. Then I was a professor of gymnastics. I was a fireman in Paris. I left France five years ago and came to England to be a **valet**. I want to live a quiet life and forget the name of Passepartout," said Passepartout.

"Passepartout suits me," said Mr. Fogg. He stood up and left the house. Passepartout was all alone. Passepartout was an honest and lively man. Phileas Fogg was a quiet man. He had a very strict life.

"Mr. Fogg's a real gentleman! I'll get on well with him," thought Passepartout.

fire (v) to end someone's employment; to dismiss

valet (n) a man's personal male servant



*There was a knock at the door.
It was his new servant, Passepartout.*

Phileas Fogg went to the Reform Club. He had breakfast. He read the paper and ate his dinner. After dinner, he sat by the fire. His friends came into the club in the evening. They talked about the story in the newspaper. *Robbers stole £50,000 from the Bank of England.* They argued about it all night. When they sat down to play whist, they were still arguing.

“Where could the thief go, then?”

“Oh, I don’t know that. The world’s big enough.”

“It was, once,” said Phileas Fogg, in a low tone.

“What do you mean by ‘once’? Is the world now smaller than before?”

“Certainly, I agree with Mr. Fogg. The world’s now smaller than before. A man can now go round it ten times more quickly than a hundred years ago. And that is why the search for this thief will be successful.”

“And also why the thief can get away more easily.”

“You have a strange way, Ralph, of proving that the world has grown smaller. So, because you can go round it in three months —”

“In eighty days,” said Phileas Fogg.

“That’s true, gentlemen,” added John Sullivan. “Only eighty days because now there’s a new section between Rotherham and Allahabad, on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

Here are the numbers in the paper:

- From London to Suez via Mont Cenis and Brindisi, by rail and steamboats: *7 days*

- From Suez to Bombay, by steamer: *13 days*

- From Bombay to Calcutta, by rail: *3 days*

- From Calcutta to Hong Kong, by steamer: *13 days*

- From Hong Kong to Yokohama, by steamer: *6 days*

- From Yokohama to San Francisco, by steamer: *22 days*

- From San Francisco to New York, by rail: *7 days*

- From New York to London, by steamer and rail: *9 days*.

In total: *80 days.*”

“Yes, in eighty days, except for bad weather, bad winds, shipwrecks, railway accidents, and so on.”

“All included,” said Phileas Fogg.

“I’d like to see you do it in eighty days,” said one of the gentlemen.

“It depends on you. Shall we go?” Mr. Fogg said.

“I’ll bet you four thousand pounds. It’s impossible!”

“I disagree. It’s quite possible,” said Mr. Fogg.



GRAMMAR CHECK

Test-1

Write the question form of the sentences as in the example.

Example: Mr. Fix was following Mr. Fogg.

Was Mr Fix following Mr. Fogg?

1. There was a great crowd standing in Pall Mall.

.....

2. They were nervously waiting for news.

.....

3. He was playing whist when Colonel Proctor came.

.....

4. They were getting ready to get on the ship.

.....

5. The sun was coming up when the funeral party woke up.

.....

6. Mr. Fix was standing on the platform.

.....

7. He was looking for the man who robbed the bank

.....

8. She wasn't listening to him when he told her to put her coat on.

.....

9. The police were chasing the thief.

.....

10. He was travelling with his assisstant.

.....

Test-2

Choose the best answer.

Passepartout was a hero but he was alone. The Sioux¹..... him. They²..... him prisoner. Colonel Proctor didn't duel Mr. Fogg. He³..... and they forgot the matter. Mr. Fogg and Mr. Fix left the train⁴..... Passepartout. Soldiers from the fort at the station came with them. Princess Aouda⁵..... at the fort. The men rescued Passepartout but Mr. Fogg's train left. Passepartout was very sad his master would lose his bet.

- | | | | |
|----|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | a. surrounded | b. surrounding | c. surrounds |
| 2. | a. takes | b. took | c. taken |
| 3. | a. apologised | b. apologises | c. apologise |
| 4. | a. rescued | b. rescues | c. to rescue |
| 5. | a. stay | b. stayed | c. staying |

Passepartout was⁶..... in the rajah's clothes. He picked up the woman and⁷..... her off the pyre. The funeral party were all⁸..... . Mr. Fogg, Passepartout and the driver ran into the trees. The princess was⁹..... Aouda. The funeral party found the rajah's body. They started to chase them. Mr. Fogg's party¹⁰..... .

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| 6. | a. dress | b. dressed | c. dresses |
| 7. | a. carrying | b. carry | c. carried |
| 8. | a. scared | b. scare | c. scaring |
| 9. | a. calls | b. called | c. calling |
| 10. | a. have escaped | b. escaped | c. escaping |

Test-3

Put these words in the correct order so that the sentences make sense.

1. the / tried / plan / Mr Fogg / and / driver / to / make / a

.....

2. time / on / the / train / left

.....

3. opium / Passepartout / up / in / an / den / woke

.....

4. eight / at / the / train / stopped / o'clock

.....

5. late / was / he / five / minutes

.....

6. the / he / days / travelled / around / world / in / 80

.....

7. parade / go / they / the / watched / past

.....

8. Mr. Fogg's / in / was / journey / papers / the

.....

9. eyes / his / closed / Mr. Fogg / stood up / and

.....

10. in / Mr. Fogg / was / prison

.....

VOCABULARY CHECK

Test-1

Fill in the blanks with the words below.

worth	description	clapped	curiosity	useless
shore	arrest	resemblance	fail	rush

1. Do you know how much this dress is
2. When the boat sank, they had to swim to the
3. The audience all and cheered when she finished her speech.
4. She asked me where I was, just out of
5. We don't need to We still have some time.
6. I sent him an email last week but he has not yet.
7. The of the killer fitted him perfectly.
8. I will never forgive her as she to keep her promise.
9. The police the wrong person.
10. This book is It doesn't explain things clearly.