

An Indian Journey

Let's Begin

Play this game—'Find someone in your class who...'

- ❖ has never travelled in a train.
- ❖ enjoys sleeping in an upper berth in the train.
- ❖ thinks train journeys take too long.
- ❖ enjoys looking at the scenery when travelling in a train.
- ❖ does not like the way a train moves.
- ❖ has travelled through mountains or jungles in a train.

How many of your classmates have done some of these things?

Talk to as many classmates as you can. Once the game is over, have a discussion about the different experiences of everyone in class.

Phileas: say filias

£20,000: twenty thousand pounds—a very large sum

butler: male servant who is responsible for all the other servants in the house

Passepartout: say pass-partoo

screech: a high, loud sound

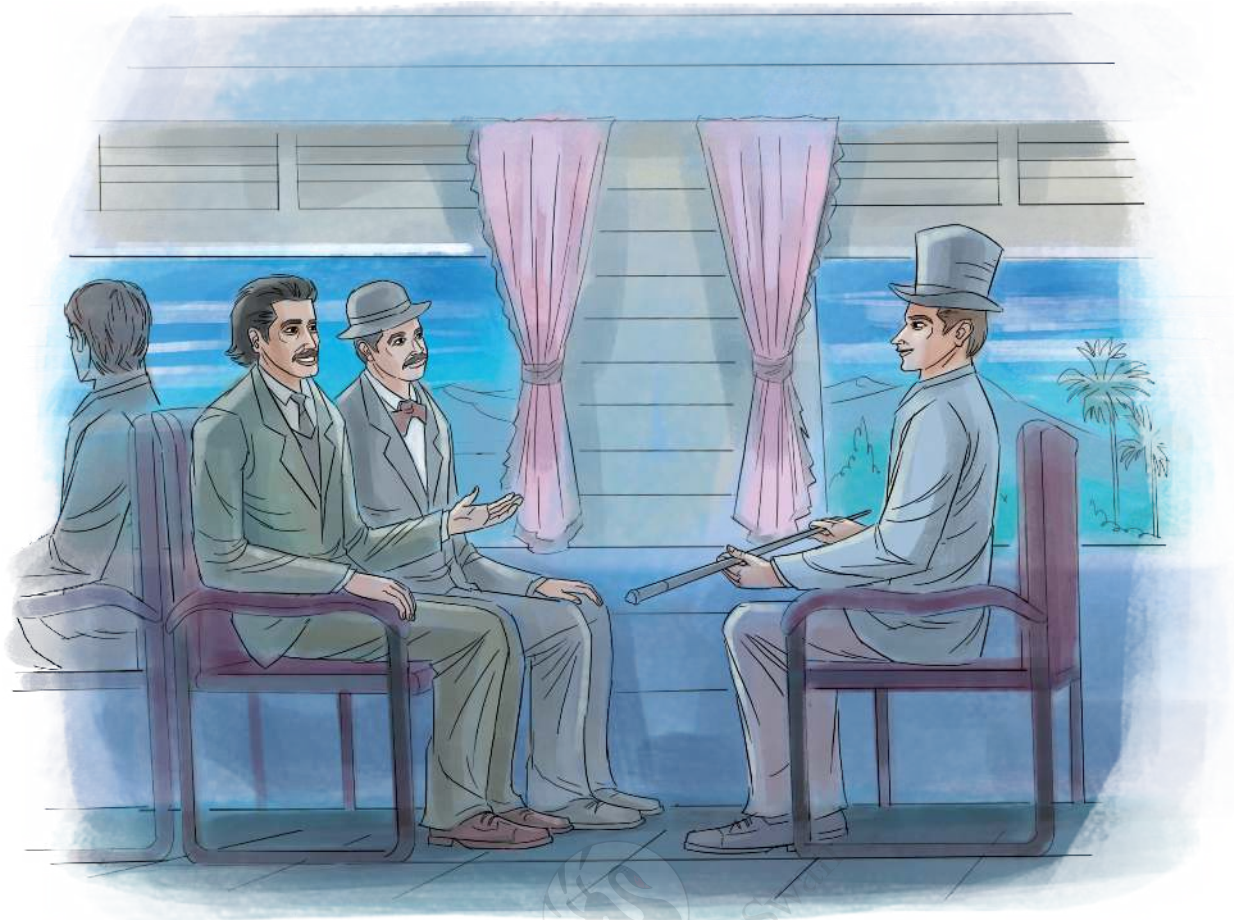
rode: travelled

distinguished general: famous army officer

circumstances: facts or events that make a situation what it is

Read this extract from *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne. In the story, Phileas Fogg of London gets involved in an argument over an article in an English newspaper. The article states that, with the opening of a new railway section in India, it was now possible to travel around the world in eighty days. Fogg makes a £20,000 bet with his friends that he can complete the journey in eighty days. Fogg and his French butler, Passepartout, set off on the journey together. In this extract, the travellers take a train from Bombay bound for Calcutta. Read about what happens to them.

The train gave a sharp screech and passed out into the darkness of the night. Passepartout and Fogg rode in the same carriage and a third passenger occupied a seat opposite to them. This was Sir Francis Cromarty, a distinguished general. Phileas Fogg, was at that moment, calculating how many hours it had been since his departure from London. He had not hidden his plan of going round the world nor the circumstances under which



he had left from Sir Francis. The general thought the bet was eccentric and that it showed a lack of common sense.

An hour after leaving Bombay, the train had passed the Island of Salcette. A while later, they passed Pauwell and entered the valleys that lay between large mountains. Phileas Fogg and Sir Francis Cromarty exchanged a few words from time to time and now Sir Francis, restarting the conversation, said, "Some years ago, Mr Fogg, you would have met with a delay at this point which would probably have lost you your wager."

"How so, Sir Francis?"

"Because the railway stopped at the base of these mountains. The passengers had to cross in palanquins or on ponies to Kandallah, on the other side."

"Such a delay would not have upset my plans at all," said Mr Fogg. "I have been prepared to face certain obstacles from the time I began this journey."

eccentric: strange or unusual, sometimes in a funny way

palanquins:



obstacles: some things that block you so that going forward is made more difficult

The conversation fell again. During the night, the train left the mountains behind and travelled over the flat country of the Khandeish the next day.

Passepartout, on waking and looking out, could not believe that he was actually crossing India in a train. The train threw out its smoke upon cotton, coffee, clove and pepper plantations. The steam curled around groups of palm trees and over beautiful bungalows, viharas and temples. Then they came upon vast jungles inhabited by snakes and tigers, which fled at the noise of the train.

At half-past twelve, the train stopped at Burhampoor. The travellers ate quickly before the train started off—it entered the defiles of the Sutpour Mountains, which separate the Khandeish from Bundelcund, towards evening. The next day, the train stopped, at eight o'clock, in the midst of a glade. The conductor, passing along the carriages, shouted, “Passengers will get out here!”

Phileas Fogg looked at Sir Francis Cromarty for an explanation but the general could not tell why the train had halted.

Passepartout rushed out and speedily returned, crying, “Monsieur, no more railway! The train isn’t going on.”

The general stepped out at once and Phileas Fogg calmly followed him. Then they walked up to the conductor together.

“Where are we?” asked Sir Francis.

“At the village of Kholby.”

“Do we stop here?”

“Certainly. The railway isn’t finished. There is still fifty miles to be laid from here to Allahabad where the line begins again.”

“But the papers announced the opening of the railway throughout.”

fell: stopped

bungalows: large houses—usually with only one level

viharas: Buddhist temples

inhabited by: lived in by

glade: a small area of grass without trees in a forest

Monsieur: sir in French; say mes-yer

“The papers were mistaken.”

“Yet you sell tickets from Bombay to Calcutta,”
said Sir Francis, who was growing angry.



“No doubt,” replied the conductor, “but the passengers know that they must find transportation for themselves from Kholby to Allahabad.”

Sir Francis was furious. Passepartout would willingly have knocked the conductor down and did not dare to look at Fogg.

“Sir Francis,” said Mr Fogg quietly, “we will, if you please, look about for transportation to Allahabad.”

It was but too true that the railway came to an end at this point. Most of the travellers were aware of this, and leaving the train, they began to engage such vehicles as they could from the village.

mistaken: made a mistake

transportation: vehicles, such as buses, trains and so on for getting from one place to another:

knocked the conductor down: hit (the conductor) so that he would fall down

engage: hire

a means of conveyance:
a way to travel

palings: fences made from long, thin pieces of wood

yielded: gave up and agreed

Mr Fogg and Sir Francis Cromarty, after searching the village from end to end, came back without having found anything.

“I shall go on foot,” said Phileas Fogg.

Passepartout, who had just returned, said, “Monsieur, I think I have found a means of conveyance—an elephant!”

“Let’s go and see the elephant,” said Mr Fogg.



They soon reached a small hut, near which, within some high palings, was the elephant. Mr Fogg decided to hire him. However, when Mr Fogg told the owner that he wished to hire the elephant, the man refused. Phileas Fogg, without getting in the least upset, then offered to buy the animal for a thousand pounds. But the man still refused. At two thousand pounds, the man yielded.

It only remained now to find a guide and at nine o’clock they finally set out from the village.

Let’s Understand

A. Answer these questions.

1. Why were Phileas Fogg and Passepartout trying to go around the world in eighty days?
2. What did Sir Francis Cromarty think about Fogg’s plan?
3. What did Fogg tell Cromarty that he was prepared for?
4. Why did the train stop in the middle of a glade?
5. How did Fogg react to the news?
6. How did the elephant become the means of transport?

B. Say whether these sentences are true (T) or not true (NT). Correct the sentences that are not true.

1. Fogg was not keeping track of the amount of time that the journey was taking him.
2. Fogg and Cromarty became good friends very quickly.
3. Fogg was very well prepared for the journey.
4. Passepartout was more impatient and became angry more quickly than Fogg.
5. Fogg had to bargain a great deal to buy the elephant.

Let's Think 

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What kind of man do you think Fogg is? Write five sentences describing him.

Let's Learn Grammar 

the present perfect tense (revision)

Read these sentences.

- ❖ The delay **has (not) upset** my plans.
- ❖ I think I **have found** a means of conveyance.

The words in colour (the verb forms) in the sentences above are in the **present perfect tense**. We use this tense form to talk about an action that has just ended or has been completed recently. The action still has meaning at the present time.

We form the present perfect tense like this—**has / have + verb** with an **-ed / -en** ending.

A. Answer these questions. Use the present perfect tense in your answer and the clues in brackets.

1. Is your mother at home?
Sorry, no, she **has left for work**.
2. Is this your brother's mobile phone?
No,... **(take with him)**
3. Is your aunt the author of this novel?
Yes,... **(write three novels so far)**
4. Is your family going on holiday during the summer holidays?
Yes,... **(make plans—Ooty for a week)**



5. Does our class have a Maths test tomorrow?

Of course,... (teacher ask Priya to make announcement)

6. Is Rahul not having lunch?

No,... (already eat)

question words

B. Complete these questions with the correct words from the box.

You may need to use one of them more than once.

what why when who where which how

1. Which of these is your favourite colour?
2. _____ do you think he managed to perform such a difficult task?
3. _____ were the actors in the play? Do you know them?
4. _____ do they usually open for lunch?
5. _____ is he looking so tired these days? Is he unwell?
6. _____ did you buy that lovely skirt? At a mall?
7. _____ is the price of mangoes now? They are not in season yet.
8. _____ are my shoes? They all look the same!

Know Your Heritage

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, also known as the **Toy Train**, is a railway that runs between New Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling. It is called a Toy Train because it is much smaller than a normal train. The track was built between 1879 and 1881 with great difficulty. The track to Darjeeling has to climb steep hills and the people building the track had to think of different ways to lay the track so that the train could climb up. At certain points in the journey, the train passes very close to shops and houses. Passengers say that they feel like they are almost inside a house or that they can pluck a fruit as the train passes! The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1999.



Let's Use Words

phrasal verbs about travel

Read this sentence.

❖ Fogg and his French butler, Passepartout, **set off** on the journey together.

The words **set off** in this sentence mean **started off on a journey**. It is a phrasal verb—a verb+preposition combination that has a meaning which is different from the meanings of the words **set** and **off**.

Match the phrasal verbs in column A with the correct meanings in column B.

A	B
1. get away	a. move to the part of the road where the traffic is moving faster
2. get on	b. stay at a place for one night or a few nights on the way to another place
3. pull out	c. to go to the place from which someone is leaving to say goodbye
4. stop over	d. leave a place, often when it is difficult to do so
5. see off	e. go onto a bus, train or airplane

Let's Speak

agreeing

When Phileas Fogg accepted the bet, he might have agreed with the person who said that people could go around the world in eighty days.

❖ He might have said, "You're absolutely right! It is possible to travel around the world in eighty days."

Let us look at some phrases that can be used to say that we agree with someone else.

- ❖ You're right.
- ❖ I agree (with you).
- ❖ I think so too.
- ❖ I think that's true.
- ❖ Yes, I totally agree.

Work in pairs and practise expressing agreement in these situations.

1. You think reading the newspaper is boring. Your friend finds it boring too.
2. You and your father are buying a schoolbag for you. Your father thinks the bags are too expensive and you agree.
3. You and your friend are trying to complete a project. Your friend thinks that you don't have enough time that day to complete it and you think so too.

4. Your sister says it is important to leave water out for birds and animals during the summer and you think it is important too.

Let's Listen

FA

post-listening task

Listen carefully to some announcements heard at the railway station. Then, answer these questions.

- From which platform is the train to Central Station leaving?
- How late is the *Hyderabad Express*?
- Why have all the long distance trains been cancelled?
- Where is the train on platform number six going?
- Which train is leaving from platform number three?



Say it Right

yell

A. Listen and repeat these words.

yellow yesterday new few
use beautiful computer music



B. Listen and repeat.

young nephew	I have a young nephew.
your computer	Is this your computer?
few and yellow	There are only a few yellow roses in the garden.
new and yet	The new shop on this street hasn't opened yet.
music and yawn	Some music makes me yawn!

Know Your Values

behaving politely

Phileas Fogg stayed calm and was not rude even when things went wrong. Passepartout got angry and wanted to hit the conductor.

Which way of acting do you think would solve the problem quickly and without any trouble?

We must always try our best to be calm in bad situations. This helps us to stay polite. It also helps us think of solutions more quickly.



We have learnt about a paragraph and how to write one. A **topic sentence** is the most important sentence in a paragraph and it conveys the whole idea of the paragraph. It is usually but not always the first sentence in a paragraph.

Read this paragraph and identify the topic sentence.

Fruits and vegetables are very important for us. If we want to have a healthy body, we must eat a lot of fruits and vegetables every day. Fruits and vegetables provide vitamins, minerals and fibre, which help us fight diseases. Fresh fruits and vegetables are a natural source of energy. We will not put on a lot of weight if we eat a lot of fruits and vegetables because they don't contain much fat. They are also easy to digest and tasty to eat.

The sentence **If we want to have a healthy body, we must eat a lot of fruits and vegetables every day.** is the topic sentence. It gives us an idea of what the rest of the paragraph is about (how fruits and vegetables make us healthier; how they are a natural source of energy).

A. Read this paragraph and identify the topic sentence. Write it in your notebook. Write what the paragraph is about.

Walking is the best way to get anywhere. You can go almost anywhere on your own feet. And it is free! Walking is also a good way to get to places that are close to your home. When you walk, you meet different people. You can slow down and look at your surroundings. Many people also walk to work or school or go on long walks to keep fit.

B. Write a short paragraph of five lines for this topic sentence.

1. Cartoons have always been enjoyed by children.