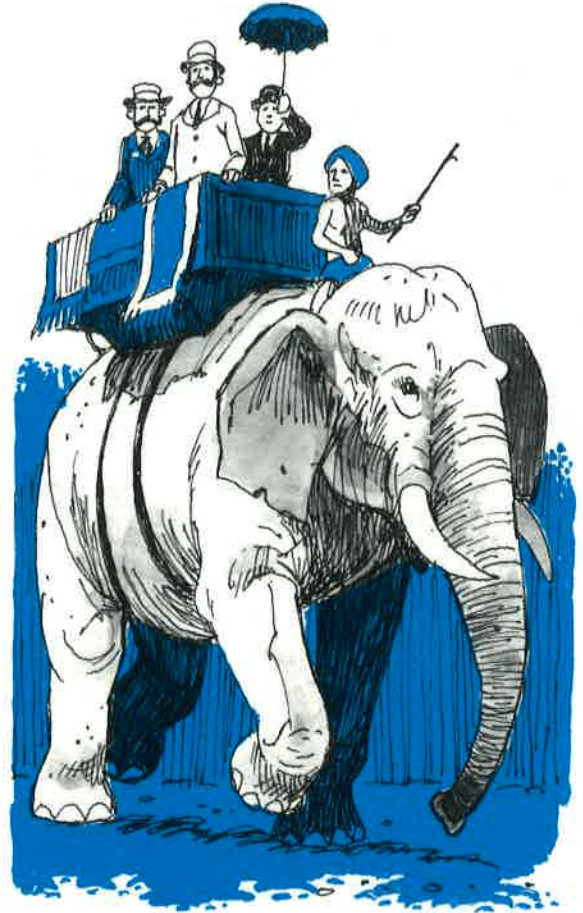


# The Amazing Journey of Phileas Fogg

Based on the novel *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne

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- 1 In 1872, Mr. Phileas Fogg walked his usual five hundred and seventy-six steps to the Reform Club of London. There he enjoyed his usual dinner, played his usual card game, and then entered into a most unusual conversation about a bank robbery that had recently taken place. The police had announced that the robber was a well-dressed gentleman, and the club members were discussing the crime. Some thought that the police would have a difficult time apprehending the criminal, since he could hide anywhere in the world.
- 2 Fogg, however, disagreed. He pointed out that the world was getting smaller, since new railways had now made it possible to go around the world in eighty days. Fogg's companions believed that eighty days was possible in theory, but not in fact, since shipwrecks, storms, accidents, and other unexpected difficulties would most certainly interfere with such a tight schedule.
- 3 But Fogg persisted, and finally said, "I will bet twenty thousand pounds that I can make the tour of the world in eighty days or less." After some discussion, the other club members accepted the wager.
- 4 Fogg and his servant Passepartout left that very day, carrying with them a small bag packed with twenty thousand pounds in cash, a few clothes, and a timetable. Soon news of the bet and of Fogg's sudden departure spread throughout London. People found it an exciting adventure, although somewhat peculiar.
- 5 Detective Fix thought it was not only peculiar, but also suspicious. Convinced that Fogg was actually the bank robber fleeing capture, Fix pursued him around the globe.
- 6 Fogg and his servant reached India without incident and boarded the newly completed trans-Indian railroad. There they encountered Sir Francis Cromarty and the first of many troubles. With no warning, the conductor suddenly announced that all passengers had to leave the train.



- 7 "Do we stop here?" asked Sir Francis.
- 8 "Certainly, since the railway isn't finished," said the conductor. "There are still fifty miles to be laid between here and the point where the line begins again."
- 9 "But the newspapers announced the opening of the completed railway."

- 10 "The newspapers were wrong," replied the conductor, "and you will have to provide your own transportation between here and Allahabad."
- 11 Sir Francis and Passepartout were furious, but Fogg was unperturbed. "I knew some obstacle or other would arise on my route, so nothing is lost. We shall hire a vehicle."
- 12 But no vehicle could be found.
- 13 "I shall go afoot," said Phileas Fogg.
- 14 Passepartout hesitated a moment and finally said, "Sir, I think I have found a way to travel. There is an elephant that belongs to an Indian who lives but a hundred steps from here."
- 15 "Let's go and see it," replied Fogg.
- 16 The three companions soon discovered the beast in the back yard of a small hut. It had been hand-reared by its owner and was very gentle. Fogg tried to rent the animal for ten pounds an hour, a generous sum, but his offer was refused, as were offers for twenty pounds, and even forty.
- 17 Without getting at all distressed, Fogg then proposed simply to buy the animal, offering a thousand pounds for it. This, too, was refused.
- 18 Sir Francis took Fogg aside and begged him to think carefully before he went any further. Fogg replied that he never acted rashly, but that twenty thousand pounds was at stake, and that the elephant was worth any price to him. Therefore, he would pay twenty times its value if necessary.
- 19 Next he offered twelve hundred pounds, then fifteen hundred, eighteen hundred, two thousand pounds. Passepartout, usually so ruddy, was fairly white with suspense.
- 20 At two thousand pounds, the Indian yielded, and Fogg paid him with some bank notes from his bag. Then Fogg offered to carry Sir Francis to Allahabad, since one traveller more was not likely to tire the gigantic elephant. They purchased provisions nearby, and Sir Francis, Fogg, Passepartout, and a guide climbed up. The guide perched on the elephant's neck, and at nine o'clock they set out from the village, the animal marching off through the dense forest by the shortest route.
- 21 *While in India, Fogg and Passepartout saved the life of a young Indian widow named Aouda. They offered to accompany her to Hong Kong, where she hoped to join a cousin. On arriving in Hong Kong, however, Aouda learned that her cousin had recently made an immense fortune and had moved to Europe. Wondering what to do, Aouda sought Fogg's advice, and he counseled her to continue on to Europe with him and Passepartout.*
- 22 *Aouda agreed, and the trio then continued their race against time. They were detained by storms, broken railroad tracks, Sioux attacks, and missed connections. They travelled by ice boat, by cargo ship, and on the seventy-ninth day, by mail train.*
- 23 They all got onto the train, which was just ready to start, at half-past one, and by dawn they were in Dublin, where they embarked on a steamer.
- 24 Phileas Fogg disembarked at the Liverpool harbor at twenty minutes before twelve, December twenty-first. He was only six hours distant from London, and he wasn't due there until quarter before nine.
- 25 But at this moment, Fix came up, put his hand upon Mr. Fogg's shoulder and, showing his warrant, said, "Are you really Phileas Fogg?"
- 26 "I am."
- 27 "Then I arrest you in the Queen's name!"
- 28 These fictional events were first told in 1873, in the novel *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Because the book originally appeared as a series of magazine installments, readers had to wait weeks to learn whether or not Fogg reached London in time to win his bet. (He did.) The book was made into a play, which caused quite a sensation at the time. One reason was that the play used spectacular effects, including snakes, a live elephant, and a giant map on which Fogg's position was shown.
- 29 But there were other reasons for the story's success. It was written by Jules Verne, who was already famous for his earlier books, including *Five Weeks in a Balloon*, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, and *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea*. All of these books told of journeys taken against great odds, and all had been popular.
- 30 This story was less fantastic than the others, and it excited strong feelings because people argued about whether or not Fogg had been right. Could the world of 1873 really be circled in only eighty days? A few years before, this would certainly have been impossible, but new railroads now crossed both India and America.
- 31 Many people, including a 22-year-old American reporter named Nellie Bly, tried to duplicate Fogg's feat. In 1889 she visited Jules Verne, who wished her luck and said he doubted she could circle the globe so quickly. But Nellie Bly succeeded, completing the trip in just 72 days.

## How Well Did You Read?

Write the letter of the phrase that completes each sentence best.

- 1 Phileas Fogg made a bet that he could circle the globe in eighty days because he
  - a liked attention-getting stunts
  - b was confident that he was right
  - c acted rashly if anyone doubted him
- 2 Detective Fix suspected Fogg was the bank robber because Fogg
  - a left London very suddenly
  - b looked like the robber
  - c had a criminal record
- 3 Sir Francis and Passepartout were furious about having to leave the train because they
  - a felt that the conductor had been rude
  - b feared it would cost them precious time
  - c did not want to travel by elephant
- 4 Fogg paid two thousand pounds for the elephant because
  - a he felt sorry for its poor owner
  - b he knew it was worth twice that
  - c it was worth almost any price to him
- 5 From what you have read, you can tell that Phileas Fogg was a man who
  - a was easily upset by small matters
  - b was determined to succeed
  - c had a passion for travel
- 6 By arresting Fogg when he did, Fix
  - a nearly prevented Fogg from reaching London in time to win his bet
  - b made sure that Fogg would be in jail over Christmas
  - c made sure that Fogg was not armed
- 7 From the kinds of books that Jules Verne wrote, you can conclude that he liked
  - a going on long ocean voyages
  - b writing about unusual journeys
  - c living in comfort and ease
- 8 From the arguments over Verne's book, you can conclude that many people were interested in discussing
  - a the increasing speed of travel
  - b how travel books were written
  - c how railroads operated in India
- 9 When Fogg said that the world was getting smaller, he
  - a was showing off his knowledge of geography
  - b did not expect to be believed
  - c meant that the new railroads made distances seem smaller

## Learn about Words

### Vocabulary

A You can often tell the meaning of a word by reading the words around it.

Look at each number in parentheses. Find the paragraph in the story with the same number. Then find the word that fits the given meaning. Write the word.

- 1 met (6)
- 2 calm; not upset (11)
- 3 recklessly; without thinking (18)
- 4 healthy-looking; rosy-cheeked (19)
- 5 delayed (22)
- 6 went ashore; left the ship (24)
- 7 imaginary; unlikely (30)
- 8 amazing accomplishment (31)

B A word may have more than one meaning.

Look at each number in parentheses. Find the paragraph in the story with the same number. See how the word in heavy type below is used in the paragraph. Decide whether it has meaning a, b, or c. Write a, b, or c.

- 9 **apprehending** (1)
  - a catching; arresting
  - b understanding
  - c foreseeing
- 10 **fortune** (21)
  - a fate; destiny
  - b large sum of money
  - c luck

## Word Study

- C** jump + **er** = jumper (one who jumps)  
enjoy + **ment** = enjoyment (result of enjoying)

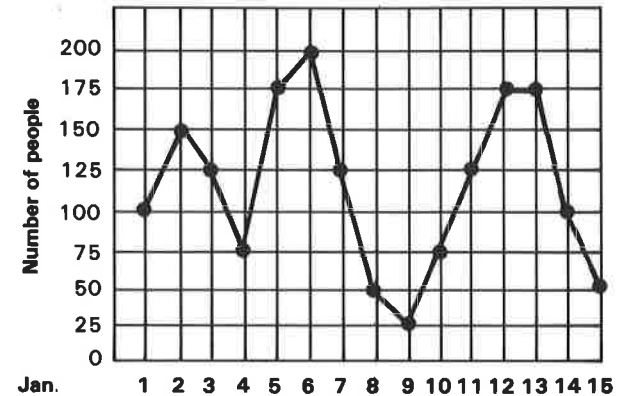
Many nouns end in *er* and *ment*. Often *er* means "one who," and *ment* means "result of." Read the definitions below and then choose *er* or *ment* to complete the word in **heavy type**. Write the completed word.

- 11 one who tells: **tell**\_\_\_
- 12 result of improving: **improve**\_\_\_
- 13 result of disappointing: **disappoint**\_\_\_
- 14 one who owns: **own**\_\_\_
- 15 one who deals: **deal**\_\_\_
- 16 result of astonishing: **astonish**\_\_\_
- 17 one who destroys: **destroy**\_\_\_
- 18 result of abandoning: **abandon**\_\_\_

- D** There is an incomplete word in each passage below. Choose the suffix *er* or the suffix *ment* to complete the word in a way that makes sense. Write *er* or *ment*.

- 19 John leads well. He's a good lead\_\_\_.
- 20 Paula reports the news. She is a report\_\_\_.
- 21 As a result of our agree\_\_\_, the dance will be held on Friday.
- 22 The new review\_\_\_ will review the play.
- 23 This flower arrange\_\_\_ is a result of arranging the flowers carefully.
- 24 The garden\_\_\_ is the person who tends my garden.
- 25 The car wreck\_\_\_ will wreck the car.
- 26 The publish\_\_\_ will publish my book.

- E** A *line graph* uses lines and dots to show numerical information. Each dot in this line graph shows how many people attended Westlake Cinema from January 1 through January 15. The lines are used to join the dots.



- Notice how readily you can compare the different days. A graph lets you see the facts at a glance. Use this line graph to see if the statements below are true or false. Write *T* for true or *F* for false.

- 27 One hundred people attended Westlake Cinema on January 14.
- 28 Fifty people attended on January 4.
- 29 More people attended on January 5 than on January 15.
- 30 The largest attendance occurred on January 9.
- 31 The smallest attendance occurred on January 6.
- 32 Attendance decreased from January 6 through January 9.
- 33 Attendance increased from January 9 through January 12.

## Use Your Imagination

Imagine that you could make a trip by any kind of transportation you wished: elephant, balloon, plane, boat, dog sled—or whatever. What kind of transportation would you choose? Where would you go? Write about it.