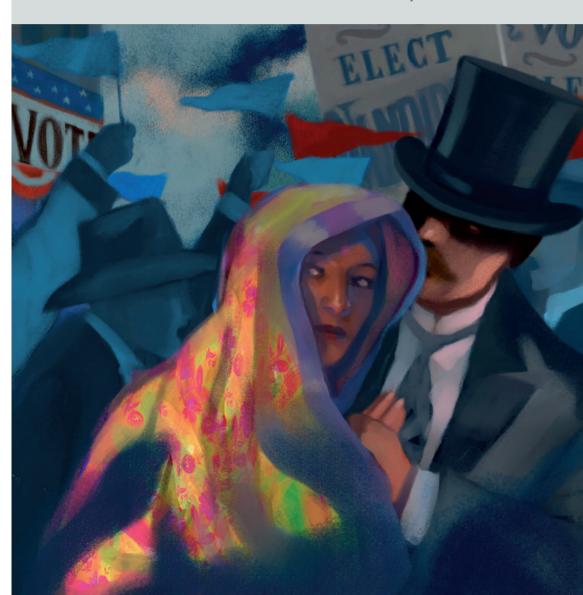
#### Jules Verne

# Around the world in 80 days

Text adaptation and activities by **Eleanor Donaldson**Illustrated by **Paolo D'Altan** 





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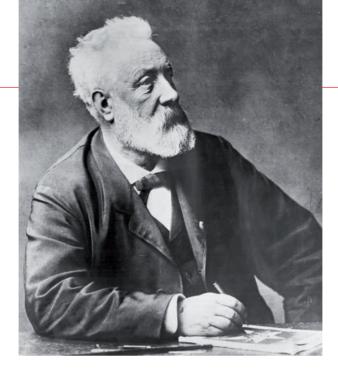
Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are recorded on the accompanying CD. Chapter 9 is downloadable from our website: <a href="https://www.blackcat-cideb.com">www.blackcat-cideb.com</a>.



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the passages linked to the listening activities.



www.blackcat-cideb.com passage downloadable from our site.



## About the author

Jules Verne was born in 1828 in the town of Nantes, in France.

When he was a boy, he ran away from home and tried to get on a ship to the Caribbean. The men on the ship found him and sent him back home.

In 1847, Jules's father sent him to Paris to study law. He did not like the subject very much and his father was angry when he left law school and started writing plays instead. His plays were not very successful at the beginning, and he had to find another way to earn money because he was in love with Honorine, a widow <sup>1</sup> with two young children. He became a stockbroker <sup>2</sup> and married Honorine a

- 1. widow: this woman's husband is dead.
- 2. **stockbroker**: a person who helps people invest their money in other companies.

year later, in 1857. They had a son called Michel. During this time Verne continued writing, and in 1852 he wrote a book about how a man could travel across Africa in a hot-air balloon. <sup>3</sup> One publisher suggested that he wrote an adventure story, using the same ideas. He did this, and in 1863, he wrote *Five Weeks in a Balloon*. People liked this new mixture of fact and fiction, and the book was an immediate success.

With the help of his friend and publisher, Pierre-Jules Hetzel, he wrote many books, sometimes two a year. Some of the most famous of these are: *A Journey to the Centre of the Earth* (1864), *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865) and *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* (1869). In these stories his heroes are clever men who are able to find solutions to problems and escape from dangerous situations.

This is also the case in *Around the World in Eighty Days* (1873). This was not only Jules Verne's most popular story but he also saw it performed several times as a play during his own lifetime. Many of Jules Verne's stories became classic films, for example, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* (1954).

Jules Verne was popular in his time because of people's interest in science. Today, people are interested to see how many of his imaginary inventions became reality. For example, in *From the Earth to the Moon*, the story is very similar to the real events of man's first journey to the moon in the *Apollo*.

Jules Verne did travel later on in his life, and in 1884 he did a tour of the Mediterranean. He died in 1905 in Amiens, France. Many people think of him as the 'father' of science fiction.

3. hot-air balloon:



#### 1 Writing

Write a sentence about Jules Verne for each date on the timeline.

Example: Jules Verne was born in 1828.

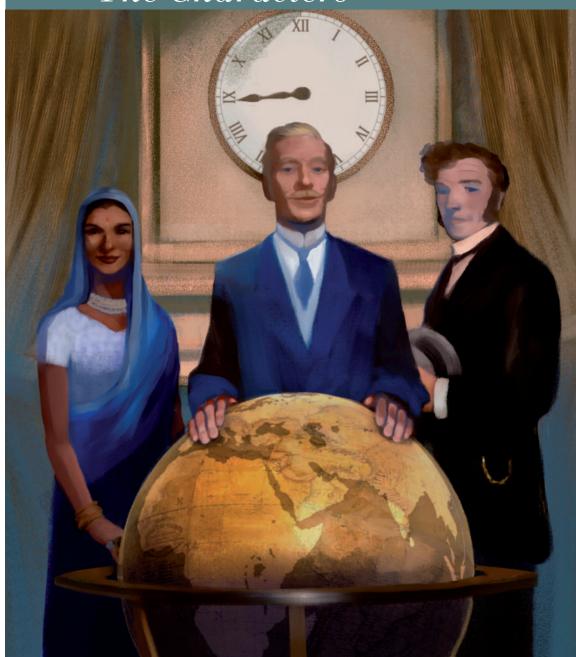
1828 1847 1852 1857 1873 1905

### PET2 Comprehension check

For each question choose the correct answer - A, B, C or D.

1	Jules Verne's father was very angry when Jules		
	A tried to get on a ship to the Caribbean.		
	B decided to go to Paris.		
	C did not like studying law.		
	<b>D</b> left law school and started writing plays.		
2	At the beginning of his career		
	A he changed his mind and became a stockbroker.		
	B he had to marry Honorine.		
	C his plays were not very successful.		
	D he had a lot of money.		
3	Jules Verne's adventure books were successful because		
	A people liked this mixture of fact and fiction.		
	B they portrayed the life of heroes.		
	C they were all based on true stories.		
	D his friend and publisher Pierre-Jules Hetzel helped him.		
4	Jules Verne was popular in his time because		
	A many of his stories became classic films.		
	B many of his stories became famous plays.		
	one of his stories was similar to the real events of man's first journey to the moon.		
	D people then were very interested in science.		

## The Characters



From left: Mrs Aouda, Mr Fogg, Passepartout

#### Before you read

#### 1 Test your Geography!

Can you match the places in the photos (A-F) that Phileas Fogg goes to on his journey around the world?

- Egypt
- 3 Mumbai (Bombay)
- 5 Hong Kong

- 2 Yokohama
- 4 San Francisco
- 6 New York













#### **2** Listening

You will hear a description of the places in exercise one. Write the number next to the picture.

#### 3 Speaking

Discuss these questions.

- 1 Have you, or someone you know, been to one of these places/countries?
- 2 Which places in the world would you like to visit? Make a list. You will look at this question again in Chapter Two.



CHAPTER ONE

## When Phileas Fogg meets Passepartout

Let me begin by introducing a mysterious English gentleman called Phileas Fogg. Most people don't know very much about him, but because he does the same thing every day, some people think they know everything about him. He is very handsome and he is a true gentleman. He is certainly rich, but no one knows how he made his money.

Has he ever been to another country? He can name a lot of countries on a world map and he knows the most incredible things about them. He probably travelled at one time, but some people insist that he has not left London for many years. Maybe he only travels in his head.



He is a very private man and he does not have many friends. The only time he speaks to other people is at the Reform Club, <sup>1</sup> where he goes to read newspapers and play cards. He does not play to win. He plays for the enjoyment of the game. He often wins, but he does not keep the money. He gives it to charity. He likes to see his games as a challenge; a challenge that does not require any physical effort.

He has lunch at the Reform Club every day, in the same room, at the same table. He goes home at midnight. He lives in his house in Savile Row, a good address in central London. No one ever goes there, except his manservant, who must always be on time and be completely loyal <sup>2</sup> to Phileas Fogg. In fact, this very morning, his manservant lost his job because the water he brought Phileas Fogg was too hot to shave with. And this is where our story begins.

Phileas Fogg was sitting in his armchair waiting for his new manservant at some time between eleven and half past eleven. (At exactly half past eleven Mr Fogg goes to the Reform Club.) He looked up at the hands of the large clock by the wall that counted every second with a loud tick.

There was a knock at the door and a young man of about thirty came in.

'You say that you are French, but your name is John?' asked Phileas Fogg, looking at him carefully.

'Jean, sir, not John,' said the young man. 'Jean Passepartout.

I am an honest man, sir, and I must tell you that I haven't been a manservant all my life. I was a physical education teacher

- Reform Club: a political club in London with services for members. It began around 1832 to give members of the Liberal Party a place to meet and discuss their ideas.
- 2. **loyal**: always supporting someone or something.

