

Mr Phileas Fogg was tall, good-looking, about forty years old, and he had a large, expensive house in London. "Yes, I'm Jean Passepartout, I'm from France, I'm thirty, and I've had several jobs," the Frenchman said. 'I used to be a circus acrobat, and later I was a firefighter in Paris. Now I hope for a quieter life in England. I hear that you work hard, Mr Passepartout. I'm happy for you to be my servant, and you can start today' Phileas Fogg picked up his coat and hat, left the house at exactly 11:30, and he walked to the Reform Club. As he did not work, he went to the Club almost every day. There, he always read newspapers and played cards with other rich men. That day, he played cards with five friends. One of them, Stuart, said, 'Have you heard the news? 15 Someone has taken GBP55,000 from the Bank of England. They think it was a well-dressed man who was seen there. The police have sent detectives round the world; but they'll never find him. The world is just too big' 'The world has grown smaller than you think,' Fogg answered. 'With fast ships and new railways, you could now travel round the world in only eighty days.' 'No,' said Stuart. 'No one could do that.' 'I believe that I can. If I can't, I'll give you GBP20,000,' said Fogg quietly. 'But if I succeed, you will give me GBP20,000' The others discussed Fogg's idea. Finally, they said, 'We agree.' 'Good. I'll take a train that leaves London at 8:45 this evening. And I'll return to this same room before 8:45 on Saturday, 21st December – or the GBP20,000 will be yours.' Fogg finished the game of cards and walked home. He put GBP20,000 into a large bag and gave it to his new servant. 'Passepartout, put some clothes in this bag, too. I'm travelling round the world, and you're coming with me.' On the morning of Wednesday, 5 2nd October, 1872, he was waiting to interview a new one. He lived simply and quietly, and he did the same things, at the same times, each day. Mr Fogg lived alone and needed a servant to look after him. There was a knock at the door, and a strong 1 young man came in. 'I understand that your name is Passepartout.' Mr Fogg asked. 'He always got up at exactly 8:00, had breakfast at 8:25 and washed at 9:35 every morning. Where are you from