

Around The World In Eighty Days



By

Jules Verne

A Novel Study
by Joel Michel Reed

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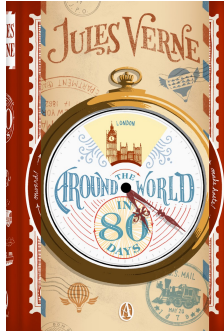


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About the author: Joel Reed has over 50 published novel studies and is the co-author of three novels. For more information on his work and literature, please visit the websites www.novelstudies.org and www.novel-studies.com.

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Suggestions and Expectations

This curriculum unit can be used in a variety of ways. Each chapter of the novel study focuses on three or four chapters of *Around The World In Eighty Days* and is comprised of five of the following activities:

1. Before You Read
2. Vocabulary Building
3. Comprehension Questions
4. Language Activities
5. Extension Activities

Links with the Common Core Standards (U.S.)

Many of the units activities are supported by the Common Core Standards. For instance the *Reading Standards for Literature, Grade 5*, makes reference to

- a) determining the meaning of words and phrases. . . including figurative language;
- b) explaining how a series of chapters fits together to provide the overall structure;
- c) compare and contrast two characters;
- d) determine how characters . . . respond to challenges;
- e) drawing inferences from the text;
- f) determining a theme of a story . . . **and many others.**

- Students can work on the activities at their own pace.
- Every activity need not be completed by all students.
- A **portfolio cover** is included (Page Seven) as well as a **Checklist** (Page Six) to keep a record of completed work.

A principal expectation of the unit is that students will develop their skills in reading, writing, listening and oral communication, as well as in reasoning and critical thinking. Students will also be expected to provide clear answers to questions and well-constructed explanations. It is critical as well that students be able to relate events and the feelings of characters to their own lives and experiences and describe their own interpretation of a particular passage.

A strength of the unit is that students can work on the activities at their own pace. Every activity need not be completed by all students.

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List of Skills

Vocabulary Development

1. Locating descriptive words / phrases
2. Listing synonyms/homonyms
3. Identifying / creating *alliteration*
4. Identify *exaggeration*
5. Identify/create *similes*
6. Use of singular/plural nouns
7. Listing compound words
8. Identifying parts of speech
9. Identifying syllables
10. Identify *personification*

Setting Activities

1. Summarize the details of a setting

Plot Activities

1. Complete a *time line* of events
2. Identify conflict in the story
3. Complete Five W's Chart
4. Identify *cliffhangers*
5. Identify the climax of the novel.
6. Story summary pyramid.

Character Activities

1. Determine character traits
2. Character comparison
3. Relating personal experiences

Creative and Critical Thinking

1. Research assignments
2. Write a newspaper story
3. Participate in a talk show
4. Conduct an interview
5. Write an author biography
6. Write about personal feelings
7. Write a book review
8. Complete an Observation Sheet
9. Complete a KWS Chart
10. Write a short story.

Art Activities

1. A Storyboard
2. Draw It Like It Is.
3. Lights, Camera, Action!
4. Design a cover for the novel
5. Create a comic strip
6. Create a mural

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Synopsis

Taking up a challenge from his whist partners, a mysterious English gentleman named Phileas Fogg wagers half his fortune and abandons his quiet domestic routine to undertake a daring feat: to circle the globe in a mere 80 days, an achievement unheard of in the Victorian world. (Courtesy of Dover Publications)

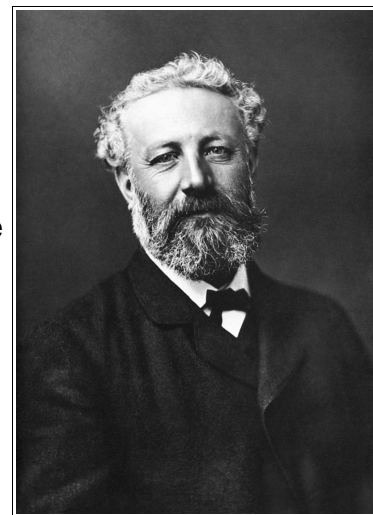
A complete synopsis and other helpful reviews can be found on the following website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Around_the_World_in_Eighty_Days

Author Biography

Jules Verne

Jules Gabriel Verne - 8 February 1828 – 24 March 1905) was a French novelist, poet, and playwright.

Verne was born to bourgeois parents in the seaport of Nantes, where he was trained to follow in his father's footsteps as a lawyer, but quit the profession early in life to write for magazines and the stage. His collaboration with the publisher Pierre-Jules Hetzel led to the creation of the *Voyages extraordinaires*, a widely popular series of scrupulously researched adventure novels including *Journey to The Center of The Earth* (1864), *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea* (1870), and *Around The World In Eighty Days* (1873).



Biography courtesy of Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jules_Verne

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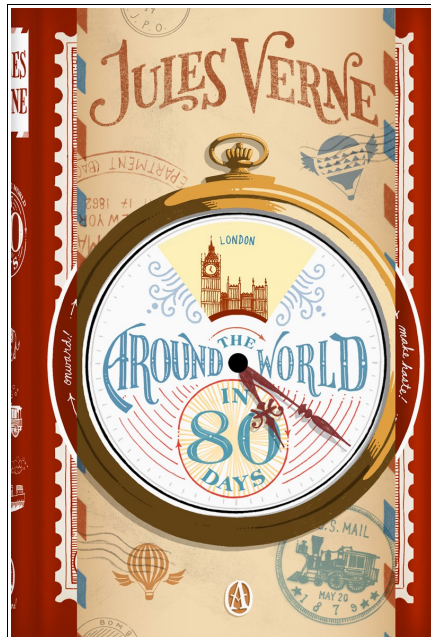


Student Checklist

Student Name: _____

Assignment	Grade/Level	Comments

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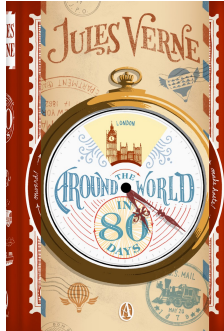


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Name:

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Chapters 1-3



Before you read the chapter:

One of the primary themes of our novel focuses on gambling. In your own words, describe whether you believe gambling to be good or bad for society. Be sure to defend your answer.



Vocabulary:

The reader is introduced to a number of unique words and phrases in our novel. Draw a straight line to connect the vocabulary word to its definition. Remember to use a straight edge.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Deliberation | A. An opinion formed on the basis of incomplete information. |
| 2. Entomologist | B. Something that is not obtainable elsewhere. |
| 3. Exclusive | C. Done consciously and intentionally. |
| 4. Acquaintance | D. Examine or inspect closely and thoroughly. |
| 5. Conjecture | E. Long and careful consideration or discussion. |
| 6. Eccentric | F. A person one knows slightly, but not a close friend. |
| 7. Deliberate | G. Done according to a systematic or established procedure. |
| 8. Whimsical | H. A person who studies zoology concerned with insects. |
| 9. Scrutinize | I. Unconventional and slightly strange. |
| 10. Methodical | J. Something described as playfully quaint or fanciful, especially in an appealing and amusing way. |

Questions

1. Circle the correct narrative that our novel follows, and the reason for your choice.

First Person Second Person Third Person

2. Describe the setting of our story as Chapter One begins.

3. Which of the following attributes would you use to describe Phileas Fogg?

A.	Tall, Handsome, Wealthy, Hated Routine.
B.	Short, Quiet, Wealthy, Enjoyed Routine.
C.	Short, Talkative, Wealthy, Hated Routine.

4. Using resources from your school library or the Internet, briefly describe some of the various duties of a *valet* during the nineteenth century.

5. What kind of employer or 'master' was Passepartout looking for, and why?

6. How much money was stolen from the bank in England as a result of the robbery?

--



Language Activity

A. A **simile** is a comparison using the words **like** or **as**. The following is an example from Chapter One: *“Phileas Fogg was seated squarely in his armchair, his feet close together like those of a grenadier on parade, his hands resting on his knees, his body straight, his head erect; he was steadily watching a complicated clock which indicated the hours, the minutes, the seconds, the days, the months, and the years.”*

What two things are being compared in this example?

Invent two of your own **similes** comparing two different people or objects with something from your own imagination:

1	
2	

B. Anagrams

An **anagram** is a word that is formed by changing the order of the letters of another word. For example, the letters in the word **EXCEPT** can also form the word **EXPECT**. Follow these directions to form the anagrams:

Using the word in the left-hand column move [all of] the letters around in any order to form brand new words. Find as many new words as possible for each word.

Word	Anagram(s)
Unaverted	
Strain	
Heart	
Shingle	
Taverns	

C. The Eight Parts of Speech

Find at least four examples of each of the eight parts of speech from these chapters and list them in the appropriate section of the chart below.

Interjections	
Nouns	
Pronouns	
Conjunctions	
Prepositions	
Adjectives	
Adverbs	
Verbs	



Extension Activity

Storyboard

A storyboard is a series of pictures that tell about an important event in a story. A storyboard can tell the story of only one scene – or the entire novel.

Complete the storyboard below illustrating the events described in the first three chapters of our novel. You may wish to practice your drawings before you begin.

1	2
3	4
5	6