

EXAMPLE OF A BOOK REVIEW: AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS was written by Jules Verne in 1873. Many people think that Verne invented science fiction.

This novel is an adventures book. Throughout the ten chapters which comprise it we can see a series of characters either in danger or rescuing and protecting their travel companions.

The main character is Phileas Fogg, a rich Englishman who decided to prove that he could travel around the world in just 80 days. This decision is taken the same day that the Bank of England is robbed in London. Therefore, there is an English detective called Fix, who will try to arrest Mr Fogg at different points on his trip. Other characters in the story are Fogg's valet Passepartout, who will accompany him in his journey, and a young Indian woman called Aouda, who they save from being burnt as part of the ritual of a funeral.

The trip starts in London. Mr Fogg and his valet get on a boat to Suez (Egypt). Then they catch a train to Calcutta. When this train is broken down they travel on the back on an elephant through a dangerous forest where they rescue Aouda, they run away with her and head to Allahabad. Soon, they will be taken to prison because Passepartout had entered an Indian temple wearing his shoes – which is against the Indian law. But after paying a bail, they are set free. Meanwhile, detective Fix tries to get information from Passepartout, who gets lost in Yokohama. After being found by Mr Fogg and Aouda, they travel by train to New York, but on the fourth day they have to cross a bridge which had been seriously damaged by a snow storm. Next, they are attacked by the Sioux Indians but they successfully escape alive. Finally, they get back to London in time to win the bet. Phileas Fogg and Aouda get married two days later, and Passepartout feels relieved to be finally at home, far from adventures and dangers.

Around the world in 80 days is an exciting novel, which makes the readers vibrate with emotion on every page. From the cultural point of view, it may have been a very revealing story with information about traditions and rituals from far away and exotic countries all over the world. It is a fascinating science fiction story worth to be read and enjoyed by any type of reader.