



INDIANA REPERTORY THEATRE

and



present

# *Around the World in 80 Days*

adapted from Jules Verne by Mark Brown

April 27 - May 16, 2010 • IRT Mainstage

## ENRICHMENT GUIDE

*edited by Richard J Roberts and Milicent Wright*

*contributors: Janet Allen, William Brown, Charles Cooper, Kevin Depinet, Andrew Hansen, Rachel Anne Healy, Molly Wible*

Indiana Repertory Theatre • 140 West Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Janet Allen, Artistic Director      Steven Stolen, Managing Director

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# ***Around the World in 80 Days***

**by Mark Brown**

**based on the novel by Jules Verne**

London, 1872. Phileas Fogg disrupts his quiet life with an outrageous wager: that he can circumnavigate the globe in only 80 days. As Fogg and his ingenious valet, Passepartout, travel by boat, by train, by elephant, Jules Verne's classic adventure epic is brought to life by only five actors in this funny, inventive, whirlwind tour.

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# 80 Days, 37 Chapters, 24 Time Zones, and 5 Actors

by Janet Allen, Artistic Director

Just three years before Jules Verne wrote *Around the World in Eighty Days* (serialized in *Le Temps* in 1872), two great achievements changed the course of human movement. In 1869, the French opened the Suez Canal, so that ships from Europe no longer had to sail around continental Africa to reach Asia; and the United States completed the transcontinental railroad, linking up the east and west coasts in a relatively short, comfortable journey. It seems impossible that these events did not inspire Verne's imagination as he created a proper English gentleman who accepts a wager to circumnavigate the globe in a record-breaking 80 days via steam, wind, and foot.

Today, of course, many of the adventures that Fogg and Passepartout encounter would be lost in the fluorescent glare of airports and high-speed train terminals. We traverse the globe electronically at lightning speed, connecting to people on the other side of the world via internet, cell phones, Skype, and online chat rooms. Fogg, on the other hand, encounters many different ways of looking at the world principally because he is thrust into the midst of foreign customs, languages, religions, currencies, transportation modes, and time zones (without an iPhone!), and his need for efficiency causes him to have to figure out how to manage these differences quickly—and all the while with a detective on his heels! The result is a recipe for absolute entertainment, mimicked today by the reality shows that focus on exotic globe-trotting. After all, there is nothing new in the world.

Perhaps most relevant to us, though, is the perennial popularity of Verne's story. A year after the publication of the book, the story made its way into the theatre where it ran, in dramatized form, for fifty years. It's inspired countless movies, television take offs, and most recently, video games and amusement park rides. Obviously, Verne knew more than a little something about human fascination for travel, for intrigue, for ingenuity, and eventually, for romance. He was a master storyteller whose sense of craft is contained even in the rather deadpan tongue-in-cheek manner in which he names the 37 chapters of the book: "In Which Phileas Fogg Secures a Curious Means of Conveyance at a Fabulous Price" (Chapter 11); "In Which Passepartout's Nose Becomes Outrageously Long" (Chapter 23).

One of the great strengths of Mark Brown's stage adaptation is how he takes Verne's delight in human ingenuity and contains it in the style of the adaptation itself. His adaptation is meant to be played with five actors, so part of the treat of the piece is seeing actors transform to play the dozens of characters that Fogg encounters on his globe-trotting escapade. One minute they are proper English gentleman at the Reform Club in London, and not too many minutes later they are cowboys and train engineers in the Wild West. It's all part of the fun as they leap from one cultural cliché to another in Peter Sellers-like affectionate mockery. Its takes some pretty elastic acting to keep this kind of pastiche in the air, and its verve and energy provide a truly great season ender.



## Author Jules Verne

1828-1905

by Richard J Roberts, Dramaturg

Universally acknowledged as the father of science fiction, Jules Verne wrote nineteenth century novels that featured many wonders not yet invented. He is often credited with predicting skyscrapers, submarines, helicopters and airplanes, film projectors, and jukeboxes, as well as expeditions to the north and south poles, the use of hydrogen as an energy source, and exploration of the moon.

Born in 1828 to an attorney and his wife in the bustling port of Nantes, France, Jules would be the eldest of five children in a family with a summer house on the banks of the Loire. No doubt the constant coming and going of ships in the harbor or up and down the river must have sparked the young boy's taste for travel and adventure. He wrote short stories in boarding school, but when he grew up he studied law in Paris as his father had done.

When Verne got his law degree in 1850, however, he got a job as secretary of the *Théâtre Lyrique*, publishing short stories and scientific essays in the periodical *Musée des familles* and writing librettos for operettas. His father disapproved of his bohemian lifestyle and soon cut off his allowance, so Verne went to work on the Paris Stock Exchange, a job he hated but did well. In 1857 he married Honorine de Viane Morel, a widow with two daughters; together they would also have a son. Verne continued to write, spending hours on research at the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, dreaming of a new

kind of novel that would combine scientific fact with adventure fiction. He met literary legend Victor Hugo (*Les Misérables*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*), who offered writing advice; and he became good friends with Alexandre Dumas *père* (*The Count of Monte Cristo*, *The Three Musketeers*).



After years of rejections, Verne met Victor Hugo's publisher, Pierre-Jules Hetzel, who saw something in Verne. Hetzel worked closely with the author, encouraging him to add comic touches, turn sad endings into happy endings, and tone down his politics. In 1863 they published *Five Weeks in a Balloon, or, Journeys and Discoveries in Africa by Three Englishmen*. It was an international best seller, and the start of a 40-year author-publisher relationship that led to more than 60 of Verne's *voyages extraordinaires*.

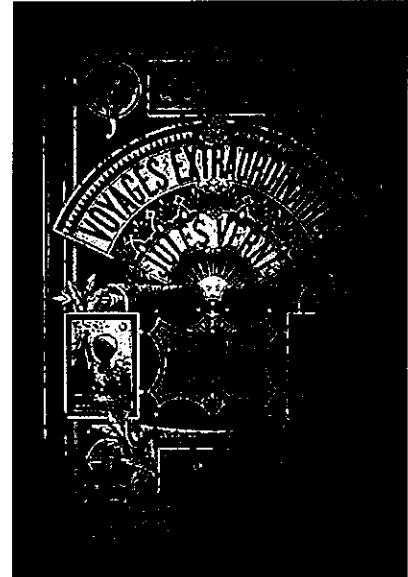
Published at the rate of two or more a year, Verne's early successes included *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (1864) and *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865). In 1867 he sailed to the United States, spending just a few days in New York City and Niagara Falls; this was the only time in his life he traveled beyond Europe and the Mediterranean. More acclaim followed with *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* (1870), *Around the World in Eighty Days* (1873), and *The Mysterious Island* (1875). Many of his novels were first serialized in Hetzel's *Magazine d'Éducation et de Récréation*; once completed, they were published in three book editions: standard, small and cheap, and large and lavishly illustrated. His books brought him a fortune, but the real money came from the royalties on theatrical adaptations of his novels, particularly *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Although now based in Amiens, France, Verne spent much of his time sailing around Europe on a series of yachts, each called the *Saint-Michel*.

In 1886, Verne was shot in the leg by his mentally ill nephew; for the rest of his life, he walked with a limp. His publisher Hetzel died in 1887. In 1888 Verne was elected councillor of Amiens, serving 15 years in office. During this time his rebellious son, Michel, became an even greater challenge, and Verne experienced financial difficulties that cost him his beloved yacht. His books—such as *Floating Island* (1895) and *Master of the World* (1904)—became darker, less about the joys of discovery, more about the dangers of technology and the hubris of scientists.

Suffering from diabetes, Jules Verne died in 1905 at the age of 77. His desk drawers were filled with nearly finished manuscripts which his son Michel published posthumously, including *The Lighthouse at the End of the World* (1905), *The Golden Volcano* (1906), and *The Hunt for the Meteor* (1908). In 1926, the year after Michel died, *Amazing Stories*, the first science fiction literary magazine, began publishing.

Jules Verne's fiction has inspired generations of real scientists, inventors, and explorers. In 1954 the first nuclear-powered submarine was named for Verne's *Nautilus*. After 135 years, people still attempt to break records while traveling around the world. Next to Agatha Christie, Jules Verne is the second most translated author of all time.

Verne's second novel, *Paris in the 20th Century*, looked forward to a world of glass skyscrapers, high-speed trains, gas-powered automobiles, calculators, air conditioning, television, and a worldwide communications network. Despite these wonders, the book's hero cannot find happiness and comes to a tragic end. Declaring that the novel's pessimism would damage Verne's fledgling career, Hetzel refused to publish it, and Verne locked away the manuscript in 1863. The author's great-grandson discovered it in 1989, and the book was finally published in 1993, re-affirming Jules Verne's place among the world's great writers as a man of unparalleled vision and imagination.



## An Interview with Playwright Mark Brown

*Mark Brown is an award-winning writer and actor who has performed in theatres across the country. His films include Out of Sight, Holy Man, and Amy's O. Notable TV credits include From the Earth to the Moon, House, Ally McBeal, Providence, Diagnosis Murder, and countless commercials and made-for-TV films. His play Around the World in 80 Days has literally been produced around the world. Awards for 80 Days include two Lillie Stoates Awards, including Best Production (Orlando Shakespeare Festival), four Shellie Awards, including Best Production (Center Rep Theatre), five Sarasota Magazine Theatre Award nominations (Florida Studio Theatre), and two Los Angeles Ovation Award nominations (the Colony Theatre). The Sacramento Bee named 80 Days Best Theatrical Comedy of 2004. His other plays include The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge, China: The Whole Enchilada, and Poe: Deep into That Darkness Peering.*



### **When did you launch your theatrical journey with *Around the World in 80 Days*?**

It began in 1999 when several of my friends and I sat around discussing one of our favorite subjects—what novels would make good stage adaptations—and *Around the World in 80 Days* came up. Someone said, “It’ll be great. We’ll follow the balloon from country to country.” I piped in with, “There’s no balloon.” I hadn’t even read the novel but somehow I knew there wasn’t a balloon in it. How I knew this little bit of trivia I’ll never know, but it’s true. There’s no balloon. There’s no balloon in the book. There’s no balloon in my script. It’s the curse of the movie, really—the one with David Niven that won five Academy Awards. The film had a balloon. It’s what everyone remembers. But there’s no balloon in the book and there’s no balloon in this show.

### **So other than having no balloon, what challenges did you encounter in turning a classic novel into what has become a classic play?**

I did several different versions of the play. Originally I tried to do it using the original words from the book with characters commenting on their own feelings, but the first act ended up being two hours long. We would have needed a dinner break to do the entire play.

**Fortunately, you chose to cut the play down. Is that when you came up with the concept of using only five actors to play three dozen roles?**

I actually set that parameter at the beginning, to have five actors. I had flow charts that showed costume changes, things like that. I really wanted to keep it to five actors. There was one scene where I needed a sixth actor, so I ended up having one actor excuse himself to use the bathroom, and then quickly come back on as another character. It's the only reason he goes to the bathroom.

**Did you find that your experience as an actor helped in the writing of this play?**

I think it helped in writing this play, and my other plays as well. I wanted this one to be fun for the audience, and for the actors. Sometimes I think actors want to kill me for what I have done. But I sort of knew what was possible for quick changes, and breaking down the fourth wall as well as breaking down time and space throughout the entire show.

**Since writing *Around the World in 80 Days* and having it premiered at Utah Shakespeare Festival several years ago, it has been performed—fittingly enough—around the world. Does the play's success surprise you?**

It was big hit in South Africa, and has been done in England, in Canada, around the United States, and just had an off-Broadway run [in 2008]. I thought it was fun, but I never thought it would take off like this. Of course, it has great name recognition, and it has a small cast. You don't need a backdrop or elaborate sets, it is as simple can be. I did not put a lot of stage directions in the script because I really wanted directors to bring their creativity to it. I wanted set designers and costume designers to figure out how to create this world on stage. I did not want to nail it down to anything.

**Have any productions of your play been done in a larger-than-life setting?**

Most productions have been fairly simple. This show really relies on the imagination of the artistic team and of the audience. If you were to see a Radio City production of this play, you'd see a real elephant, but it would be really boring because you're not using your imagination. If the actors tell the story like eight-year-olds and bounce around, it's live as opposed to literal. It's like seeing my daughter pretending that "now I am in the castle," or "now I am underwater, save me Daddy." It's fun to do that. We have all been to that place. With this play, it's "I'm on an elephant, now I am on a train." It's a really fun play, a fun night out at the theatre. It's about as deep as a shallow puddle, but it's really fun.

—interview courtesy of Laguna Playhouse

## Travel with Us

by William Brown, Director

I read Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days* when I was in grade school. I grew up in a small town in West Virginia. We didn't have much money, and family vacations meant an occasional trip to grandmother's house. But I always, always wanted to travel. Travel to me meant adventure, mystery, danger, and surprise. I longed to explore the exotic unknown that surely lay outside of my limited experience. I was the kind of kid that put a towel around his head and pretended to be a maharajah.

Alas, I wouldn't really see much of the world until I was well into adulthood. But someone gave that kid with the towel on his head Verne's delightful book. And around the world I went. From foggy Victorian England to the banks of the Suez Canal to Indian temples, Hong Kong wharves, and the snowy American plains. It was Jules Verne's story, but it was my imagination.

Of course, Jules Verne never went anywhere either. Born into a middle class French family (not even English!), he went into the family business and never saw India or China or the center of the earth or twenty thousand leagues under the sea. He used *his* imagination and all the travel books he could find. I love him for that.

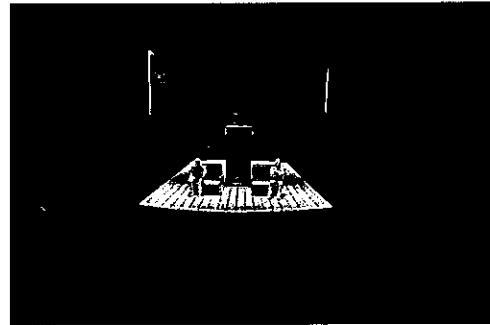
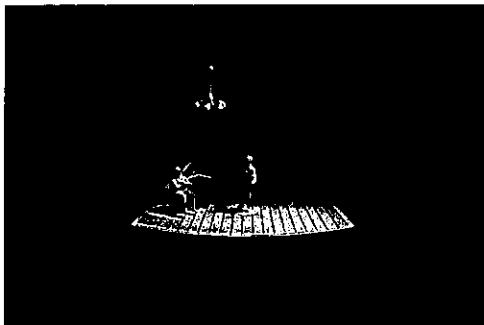
With just a few actors, a simple set, lights, and music, we invite you to join us on our trip around the world. Oh, and pack your imagination.



## Baedeker

### Kevin Depinet • Scenic Designer

From the beginning, the director and I wanted to incorporate the exotic and foreign nature of the Indiana Theatre's existing architecture into the set. The red walls of the theatre evoke a Victorian sensibility that could easily represent Fogg's home or even an exotic temple in Bombay. The set echoes the architecture of the theatre, creating a cohesive visual statement. This echo also helps to iris in the playing space, which allows the actor to become the focus on stage as well as addressing the practical concern of multiple scenes in widely varied locations. In the end, the set becomes a magic box of sorts. The many different locations are created with just a few pieces and, most importantly, the audience's imagination.



*Preliminary models for Fogg's house (left) and the train car (right) by designer Kevin Depinet.*

### Charles Cooper • Lighting Designer

Theatrical design is a smaller piece of a bigger puzzle. As designers, we make specific design choices that are intended to assist in the telling of a story to an audience. As a designer, I try and think about how the characters in the play are changed (or not changed) by the themes of the play, and how that might relate to an evolution in the physical environment. In thinking about this production, we are hoping that the audience will be drawn into the magic of seeing a storied sight for the first time. As a lighting designer, I use carefully researched visual images to communicate to the production team what ideas I am trying to express through light. Simply put, my job as a lighting designer is to help the audience "see the play." I use the qualities of light such as color, texture, and angle to help physically define a space. Like a film camera, I may highlight a specific place onstage to help tell the audience what is important about a scene, and where to look. Lighting design will often subliminally reflect the emotional tone of the scene. In its simplest form, this could be represented by warm, soft light for a comedic or happy scene, and cold, crisp light for a scene that is sad. I also think about what might create the light in the scene. Is it lamp in Fogg's parlor, the hot crisp desert sun, or silvery blue-green jungle moonlight? If I have done my job correctly, you as an audience member will feel the beauty of the sunset, sense the denseness of the Indian jungle, and be frightened by the fervor of the typhoon. All of these elements should collide to create an enhanced experience for the audience member.

### Rachel Anne Healy • Costume Designer

*Around the World in 80 Days* comes from a place of complete imagination and the longing of one who wishes to trade the confines of everyday life for a life of adventure. The original novel by Jules Verne sets the tone for an 1870s on the brink of great discovery. The design team took our notes from the book's original words and illustrations of what it might be like if you *imagined* travel around the world at this time; to dream of what India looked like, or China, or Japan or even America in the 19th century. It was a vividly dangerous and yet tempting sight! The clothes reflect a hint of historical accuracy with appropriateness of dress for the "westerners" in bustles and frock coats. For individuals met in foreign lands, the vivid colors, hand-embroidered fabrics, and unique headgear suggest a dreamlike experience which, with further investigation, reveals the truth within each traveler.



*Preliminary renderings by costume designer Rachel Anne Healy for (left to right) Phileas Fogg, Aouda, and Passpartout*

### Andy Hansen • Sound Designer

I started with the notion that this play is a piano concerto—sometimes small and intimate, sometimes grand and sweeping. I'll provide you some musical friends to accompany you along the way: repeated motifs that keep returning to say, "Take my hand, this will be fun!" It is my hope to be the tour guide for your imagination, filling in details of locale that theatrical space and time cannot, but also to enhance the poetry of this story. It's an adventure tale, but Jules Verne has tucked a romance into the center of it, so expect to hear some longing and lyricism. I hope you enjoy the journey.

# Text Glossary

## Page

### 1 **Number 7 Saville Row**

The first sentence of Jules Verne's novel *Around the World in Eighty Days* is: "Mr. Phileas Fogg lived, in 1872, at No. 7, Saville Row, Burlington Gardens, the house in which Sheridan died in 1814." The sentence includes two factual mistakes: Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Irish-born comedy-of-manners playwright (*The Rivals*, *The School for Scandal*), actually lived at No. 14, and he died in 1816. Also, there is a spelling error: Savile Row is spelled with one *l*, not two. In the 1960s, Number 3 Savile Row just down the street was the office of the Beatles' Apple Corps. Since the mid-1800s, Savile Row has been famous for its traditional men's bespoke tailoring. The term "bespoke" is understood to have originated in Savile Row when cloth for a suit was said to "be spoken for" by individual customers.

### 1 **Burlington Gardens**

Burlington Gardens is a fashionable part of Mayfair, London's most exclusive neighborhood.

### 1 **Esq.**

A title of respect for a member of the English gentry ranking just below a knight; used to denote a high but not officially honored social status.

### 1 **sacked**

the British term for fired

### 1 **bringing him his shaving water**

The automatic water heater was not widely used in homes until the 1890s or later. Prior to this time, pots of cold water needed to be heated on the stove.

### 2 **bonjour**

French: good day (hello)

### 2 **monsieur**

French: Mr. or sir, a term of respect.

### 2 **Passepartout**

French: access to everywhere

### 2 **oui**

French: yes

### 3 **Madame Tussaud's**

Madame Tussaud's is a wax museum (a collection of life-sized wax figures representing famous people from history and contemporary personalities exhibited in lifelike poses). It was set up by wax sculptor Marie Tussaud (1761-1850) on Baker Street in London in 1835.

**3 Reform Club**

The Reform Club is a gentlemen's club, a members-only private club of a type originally set up by and for English upper class men in the eighteenth century. The clubs were, in effect, "second homes" in the center of London where men could relax, mix with their friends, play cards, get a meal, and in some clubs even stay overnight. The clubs allowed upper- and upper-middle-class men with modest incomes to spend their time in grand surroundings; the richer clubs were built by the same architects as the finest country houses of the time, and had the same types of interiors. They also were a convenient retreat for men who wished to get away from their female relations. Many men spent much of their lives in their clubs, and it was a common feature for young newly graduated men who had moved to London for the first time to live at their club for two or three years before they could afford to rent a house or flat. The 19th century brought an explosion in the popularity of clubs; at their height, London had more than 400 such establishments. The Reform Club is located on the south side of Pall Mall (at number 104), in central London. Founded in 1836, it was a center for liberal and progressive thought that became closely associated with the Liberal Party. The palatial building was designed by Sir Charles Barry and opened in 1841, the design based on the Farnese Palace in Rome. The Reform was one of the first clubs to have bedrooms, and its library contains some 75,000 books, mostly political history and biography. With the decline of the Liberal Party in the mid-20th century, the club increasingly drew its membership from civil servants. Originally for men only, it has admitted women since 1981. In 1977 its subscription fees were among the highest in London.

**4 Stock Exchange**

A stock exchange provides trading facilities for stock brokers and traders to trade stocks and other securities. Founded in 1801, the London Stock Exchange is one of the largest stock exchanges in the world, with many overseas listings as well as British companies. The concept of trading shares first originated in London with the need to finance two voyages: The Muscovy Company's attempt to reach China via the White Sea north of Russia, and the East India Company voyage to India and the east. The trading in the stocks of the second company began in 1688. Unable to finance these expensive journeys privately, the companies raised the money by selling shares to merchants, giving them a right to a portion of any profits eventually made.

**4 counting-rooms**

A counting room is a room that is designed and equipped for the purpose of counting large volumes of currency. Counting rooms are operated by central banks and casinos, as well as some large banks and armored car companies that transport currency. In the 1800s the term counting room was also used as a general euphemism for banks and other financial institutions.

**4 board of directors**

A board of directors is a body of elected or appointed members who jointly oversee the activities of a company. A board's activities are determined by the powers, duties, and responsibilities delegated to it or conferred on it by the company's stockholders. The board is the highest authority in the management of the corporation. Membership on a corporate board of directors is not a paying position; however, since most board members are major stockholders in the given company, membership on such boards suggests a certain amount of wealth, power, and prestige.

**5 the Continent**

In the United Kingdom, *the Continent* is used to refer to the mainland of Europe.

**5 fifty-five thousand pounds**

Today, £3.6 million, or \$5.5 million

**5 the Daily Telegraph**

*The Daily Telegraph* is a daily morning broadsheet newspaper distributed throughout the United Kingdom and internationally. It was founded by Colonel Arthur B. Sleigh in June 1855 with the slogan, "the largest, best, and cheapest newspaper in the world." One of the original editors laid out the newspaper's principles in a memorandum: "We should report all striking events in science, so told that the intelligent public can understand what has happened and can see its bearing on our daily life and our future. The same principle should apply to all other events—to fashion, to new inventions, to new methods of conducting business." In 1876 Jules Verne published his novel *Michael Strogoff*, whose plot takes place during a fictional uprising and war in Siberia. Verne included among the book's characters a war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* named Harry Blount, who is depicted as an exceptionally dedicated, resourceful, and brave journalist, taking great personal risks in order to follow closely the ongoing war and bring accurate news of it to the *Telegraph's* readership, ahead of competing papers.

**5 gentleman**

Traditionally, among the upper classes, the term gentleman signified a man with an income derived from property, a legacy, or some other source; one who was thus independently wealthy and did not need to work.

**5 the cash room**

The central public room of the bank, where tellers conduct business with customers.

**6 Whist**

Whist is a classic English trick-taking card game which was played widely in the 18th and 19th centuries. Apparently originating in the early 17th century, the now obsolete adjective *whist* and variant spelling *wist* (in which the word *wistful* has its roots), meant *quiet*, *silent*, and/or *attentive*. Early in the 18th century, Whist was not a fashionable game. Contemporary writers refer to it in a disparaging way, as being only fit for hunting men and country squires, and not for fine ladies or people of quality. Whist was first played on scientific principles by a party of gentlemen who frequented the Crown Coffee House in Bedford Row, London, about 1728. They laid down the following rules: "Lead from the strong suit; study your partner's hand; and attend to the score." Shortly afterwards Edmond Hoyle (1672-1769) published his *Short Treatise on the Game of Whist* (1742); the success of this book led to series of game rule books, as well as the popular phrase "according to Hoyle." By the middle of the 18th century, Whist was regularly played at the coffee houses of London and in fashionable society. From the time of Hoyle the game continued to increase in public estimation; by the late 19th century an elaborate and rigid set of rules detailing the laws of the game, its etiquette, and the techniques of play, had been developed that took a large amount of study to master. In the early 20th century, Bridge, which shares many traits with Whist, displaced it as the most popular card game amongst many card players. Today, Whist has largely fallen out of favor in America but continues to be played in Britain.

**6 cut**

After a deck of cards is shuffled by the dealer, he or she often sets the cards face-down on the table near the designated cutter, typically the player to the dealer's right. The player cuts the deck by removing a contiguous range of cards from the deck, and places them toward himself so that the stack of cards to be dealt is closest to the dealer. The simplest form of the cut is done by taking, roughly, the top one-half of the cards, and placing them on the table or a cut card. Either the player cutting or the dealer then completes the cut by placing the remaining bottom portion on top of the cards that have been cut off. Once the cut is complete, the dealer then picks up the deck, straightens or "squares" it, then deals the cards.

**7 Great Indian Peninsula Railway**

The Great Indian Peninsula Railway was incorporated in 1849 by an act of the British Parliament. It had a share capital of 50,000 pounds and entered into a formal contract with the East India Company for the construction and operation of the first experimental line. By 1867 one line of the railroad connected with the East Indian Railway at Jabalpur, thus completing the rail connections between Bombay and Calcutta.

**7 headwinds**

A headwind blows against the direction of travel of an object. A headwind reduces the object's speed and increases the time required to reach its destination. The opposite wind is a tailwind.

**7 Hindus**

A Hindu is an adherent of Hinduism, a set of religious, philosophical, and cultural systems that originated in the Indian subcontinent. The vast body of Hindu scriptures, divided into Śruti ("revealed") and Smṛiti ("remembered"), lay the foundation of Hindu beliefs, which primarily include dharma (righteous duty), karma ("action" or "deed" as a part of cause and effect), ahimsa (non-violence), and saṃsāra (the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth). Vedānta (self-realization or cosmic consciousness) and yoga (physical and mental disciplines associated with meditation) are among the core schools of Hindu philosophy. Hinduism is regarded as the oldest of the world's major religions, and Hindu mythology and philosophy have had a profound impact in many parts of the world, especially southern and South East Asia. With more than a billion adherents, Hinduism is the world's third largest religion. The vast majority of Hindus live in India.

**7 Indians**

presumably a reference to indigenous Americans

**7 pillage**

To rob of goods by force, especially in time of battle.

**7 trumps**

A trump is a playing card that is elevated above its normal rank in trick-taking games. Typically an entire suit is nominated as a trump suit; these cards then outrank all cards of plain (non-trump) suits.

**8 four thousand pounds**

Today, £264,000, or \$400,000

**8 twenty thousand**

Today, £1.3 million, or \$2 million

**8 Barings**

Barings Bank was founded in London in 1762 as the John and Francis Baring Company. After rising to prominence—in 1802, the bank was called on to facilitate the largest land purchase in history, the Louisiana Purchase—in the 1820s lack of leadership forced Barings to cede its prominence to Rothschild & Sons. After focusing on commercial credit business in the 1850s and 1860s, by the 1870s it was back on top, increasingly involved in international securities, especially from the United States, Canada, and Argentina, as well as cautiously and successfully venturing into the North American railroad boom. Barings was the oldest merchant bank (a financial institution primarily engaged in offering financial services and advice to corporations and to wealthy individuals) in London until its collapse in 1995 after one of the bank's employees lost \$1.3 billion speculating on futures contracts.

**9 Dover**

Dover is a town and major ferry port in the home county of Kent, in South East England. It faces France across the narrowest part of the English Channel. Today there are 60 ferry crossings to Europe every day from Dover.

- 9 **cheque**  
the British spelling of *check*
- 10 **Calais**  
Calais is a port city in northern France. Calais overlooks the Strait of Dover, the narrowest point in the English Channel, which is only 21 miles wide here. It is the closest French town to England, of which Calais was a territorial possession for several centuries. The white cliffs of Dover can easily be seen on a clear day.
- 10 **trunks**  
Prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, trunks were used by travelers for extended periods away from home, such as for boarding school, or long trips abroad. Trunks were generally constructed with a base trunk box made of pine which was then covered with protective and decorative materials such as leather, canvas, or tin. As the volume and layers of clothing worn by the wealthy grew smaller, and as the world of travel began to open to the less wealthy without servants, trunks were replaced by the smaller and less cumbersome suitcase.
- 11 **Bradshaw's Continental Railway Steam Transit and General Guide**  
George Bradshaw (1801–1853) was an English cartographer, printer, and publisher. He is best known for developing the most successful and longest published series of combined railway timetables. Bradshaw's name was already known as the publisher of *Bradshaw's Maps of Inland Navigation*, which detailed the canals of Lancashire and Yorkshire, when, in 1839, soon after the introduction of railways, he published *Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables and Assistant to Railway Traveling*, the world's first compilation of railway timetables. It cost sixpence and was a cloth-bound book. A new volume was issued at occasional intervals, and from time to time a supplement served to keep this up to date. In 1841, Bradshaw began to issue his timetables monthly under the title *Bradshaw's Monthly Railway Guide*. Many railway companies were unhappy with Bradshaw's timetable, but Bradshaw was able to circumvent this by becoming a railway shareholder and by presenting his case at company stockholders' meetings. Soon the book, in its familiar yellow wrapper, became synonymous with its publisher: for Victorians and Edwardians alike, a railway timetable was "a Bradshaw," no matter whether Bradshaw had been responsible for its production or not. The eight-page edition of 1841 grew to 32 pages by 1845 and to 946 pages by 1898. In 1847 the first number of *Bradshaw's Continental Railway Guide* was issued, giving the timetables of the Continental railways, just as *Bradshaw's Monthly Railway Guide* gave the timetables of the railways of the United Kingdom. The *Continental Railway Guide* eventually grew to over 1,000 pages, including timetables, guidebook, and hotel directory. In 1865, *Punch* praised Bradshaw's publications, stating that "seldom has the gigantic intellect of man been employed upon a work of greater utility." Bradshaw minutely recorded all changes and became the standard manual for rail travel well into the 20th century.
- 11 **Bank of England notes**  
The Bank of England is the central bank of the whole of the United Kingdom and is the model on which most modern, large central banks have been based. It was established in 1694 to act as the English Government's banker, a role it retains to this day. Just as the US Treasury issues paper money (bills), the Bank of England issues banknotes in the United Kingdom, and has done so since 1694. Notes were originally hand-written; although they were partially printed from 1725 onwards, cashiers still had to sign each note and make them payable to someone. Notes were fully printed from 1855.
- 11 **Charing Cross**  
Charing Cross denotes the junction of the Strand, Whitehall, and Cockspur Street, just south of Trafalgar Square in Westminster. It is named after a long demolished monumental cross (replaced in 1675 by a statue of King Charles I) located in the former hamlet of Charing. Charing Cross is traditionally considered the center point of the city of London.

**12 the gas in my room**

Before electricity became sufficiently widespread and economical to allow for general public use, gas was the most popular means of lighting in cities and suburbs. The first public street lighting with gas took place in London in 1807. In 1812, Parliament granted a charter to the London and Westminster Gas Light and Coke Company, and the first gas company in the world came into being. As artificial lighting became more common, desire grew for it to become readily available to the public. This was in part because towns became much safer places to travel around after gas lamps were installed in the streets, reducing crime rates. By 1859, gas lighting was to be found all over Britain, and about a thousand gas works had sprung up to meet the demand for the new fuel, produced by burning coal.

**12 Suez**

Suez is a seaport town (population 497,000) in north-eastern Egypt, located on the north coast of the Gulf of Suez, at the north end of the Red Sea, near the southern terminus of the Suez Canal, completed in 1869. In the 7th century a town near the site of present-day Suez was the eastern terminus of a canal linking the Nile River and the Red Sea. In the 16th century Suez was a Turkish naval station. Its importance as a port increased after the Suez Canal opened in 1869.

**12 Consulate ... Consul**

The title Consul is used for the official representatives of the government of one state in the territory of another, normally acting to assist and protect the citizens of the consul's own country, and to facilitate trade and friendship between the people of the country to whom he or she is accredited and the country of which he or she is a representative. This distinguishes the consul from the ambassador, who is, technically, a representative from one head of state to another. Thus, while there is but one ambassador representing a nation's head of state to another, and his or her duties revolve around diplomatic relations between the two countries, there may be several consuls, one in each of several main cities, providing assistance with bureaucratic issues to both the citizens of the consul's own country traveling or living abroad, and to the citizens of the country the consul is in who wish to travel to or trade with the consul's country. The office of a Consul is termed a Consulate, and is usually subordinate to the state's main representation in that foreign country, usually an Embassy in the capital city of the host state. In the capital, the consulate may be a part of the embassy itself.

**12 wire**

Telegraphy (from the Greek words *tele* = far and *graphein* = write) is the long-distance transmission of written messages without physical transport of letters. The first telegraphs came in the form of optical telegraphs, including the use of smoke signals and beacons, which have existed since ancient times, or semaphores using pivoting blades or paddles, shutters in a matrix, or hand-held flags. An electrical telegraph was independently developed and patented in the United States in 1837 by Samuel F. B. Morse, who also developed the Morse code signaling alphabet. Telegraphy messages sent by the telegraph operators using Morse code were known as *telegrams* or *cablegrams*, often shortened to *cable* or *wire* messages. Before long distance telephone service was readily available or affordable, telegram services were very popular. Telegrams were often used to confirm business dealings and, unlike e-mail, telegrams were commonly used to create binding legal documents for business dealings. Telegraphy includes recent forms of data transmission such as fax, email, the internet, and computer networks.

**13 Scotland Yard**

Founded in 1829, Scotland Yard is the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Service, responsible for policing Greater London (excluding the City of London). Its name derives from the headquarters' original location on Great Scotland Yard, a street of Whitehall.

**13 Brindisi**

Brindisi is an ancient city in the Apulia region of Italy, the capital of the province of Brindisi, off the coast of the Adriatic Sea (on the back of the heel of the boot). Brindisi is a major ferry port, with routes to Greece and elsewhere.

- 15 **Excusez moi**  
French: excuse me
- 15 **to have a passport stamped**  
A passport is a document, issued by a national government, which certifies, for the purpose of international travel, the identity and nationality of its holder. The elements of identity are name, date of birth, sex, and place of birth. Most often, nationality and citizenship are congruent. It is considered unlikely that the term "passport" is derived from sea ports, but rather from a medieval document required to pass through the gate ("porte") of a city wall. In medieval Europe, such documents were issued to travelers by local authorities, and generally contained a list of towns and cities into which a document holder was permitted to pass. On the whole, documents were not required for travel to sea ports, which were considered open trading points, but documents were required to travel inland from sea ports. King Henry V of England is credited with having invented what some consider the first true passport, notwithstanding earlier examples elsewhere, as a means of helping his subjects prove who they were in foreign lands. The rapid expansion of rail travel in Europe from the mid-nineteenth century led to a breakdown of the European passport system of the early part of the nineteenth century. The speed of trains, as well as the numbers of passengers that crossed many borders, made enforcement of passport laws difficult. The general reaction was the relaxation of passport requirements. In the later part of the nineteenth century and up to World War I, passports were not required, on the whole, for travel within Europe, and crossing a border was straightforward. Consequently, comparatively few people had passports.
- 15 **stamped**  
A passport stamp is a rubber stamp inked impression received in one's passport upon entering or exiting a country, verifying that one has done so legally. Depending on your nationality, you may not receive a stamp (unless you specifically request one), such as a European Union citizen traveling to another EU country.
- 15 **the description in the passport**  
Early passports included a description of the passport holder. Photographs did not begin to be attached to passports until the early decades of the twentieth century, when photography became widespread.
- 16 **the Mongolia**  
The ship is presumably named for Mongolia, the geographical region primarily inhabited by ethnic Mongols. Today that area encompasses the modern state of Mongolia, a portion of the People's Republic of China, and the Buryat Republic, as well as a few smaller territories in Russia. Genghis Khan (c. 1162–1227) was the founder of the Mongol Empire, which after his death became the largest contiguous empire in the history of the world, and the second largest empire in history, after the British Empire.
- 18 **phlegmatic**  
having a calm temperament; not readily showing emotion; aloof, cold, stoic, composed, impersonal. Phlegmatic is derived from the Greek *phlegmatikos*, which means "having an abundance of phlegm." Phlegm is saliva mixed with respiratory discharge, and at one time it was believed to cause a person to be sluggish and unemotional.
- 18 **Merci**  
French: thank you
- 19 **a character**  
a person with many eccentricities

**20 pretext**

something serving to conceal plans; a fictitious reason that is concocted in order to conceal the real reason

**21 the Red Sea**

The Red Sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia. The connection to the ocean is in the south through the Bab el Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden. In the north, there is the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez (leading to the Suez Canal). The Red Sea is about 1398 miles long. The name is a direct translation from Greek, Latin, and Arabic, but the water is not red. The name of the sea may signify the seasonal blooms of the red-coloured *Trichodesmium erythraeum* near the water's surface. Another hypothesis is that the name comes from the Himyarite, a local group whose own name means *red*. A theory favored by some modern scholars is that the name *red* is referring to the direction South, just as the Black Sea's name may refer to North. It is also theorized that it was so named because it borders the Egyptian Desert, which the ancient Egyptians called the *Dashret* or "red land," making it the sea of the red land.

**21 Aden**

Aden is a city in Yemen. It is a seaport, located by the southeastern approach to the Red Sea (the Gulf of Aden). Aden's ancient, natural harbor lies in the crater of an extinct volcano which now forms a peninsula, joined to the mainland by a low isthmus.

**21 on English soil**

The British Empire comprised the dominions, colonies, protectorates, mandates, and other territories ruled or administered by the United Kingdom, that had originated with the overseas colonies and trading posts established by England in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. At its height it was the largest empire in history, comprising Canada, Australia, India, Egypt, and other large portions of Africa, as well as portions of the Middle East and Southeast Asia. For over a century, it was the foremost global power. By 1922, the British Empire held sway over a population of about 458 million people, one-quarter of the world's population at the time, and covered more than 13,000,000 square miles—approximately a quarter of the Earth's total land area. As a result, its political, linguistic, and cultural legacy is widespread. At the peak of its power, it was often said that "the sun never sets on the British Empire" because its span across the globe ensured that the sun was always shining on at least one of its numerous territories. The loss of the Thirteen Colonies in North America in 1783 after a war of independence was a blow to Britain, and British attention soon turned towards Africa, Asia, and the Pacific. Following the defeat of Napoleonic France in 1815, Britain enjoyed a century of effectively unchallenged dominance, and expanded its imperial holdings across the globe. During the 20th century, most of the territories of the Empire became independent as part of a larger global decolonization movement by European powers, ending with the return of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China in 1997. After independence, many former British colonies joined the Commonwealth of Nations, a free association of independent states. Sixteen Commonwealth nations share their head of state, Queen Elizabeth II, as Commonwealth realms. Fourteen territories remain under British sovereignty, the British overseas territories.

**22 the Peninsula Company**

Possibly a fiction creation of Verne's; probably a reference to the peninsula of India.

**23 Bombay**

Bombay is an old name for the city that is today called Mumbai. The name *Mumbai* is derived from the name of the Koli goddess Mumbadevi. The former name *Bombay* had its origins in the 16th century when the Portuguese arrived in the area and called *Bombaim*, which meant "good bay." After the British gained possession of the city in the 17th century, it was anglicized to *Bombay*. Although the English name was officially changed to *Mumbai* in 1995, the city is still commonly referred to as *Bombay* by many of its residents and Indians from other regions as well. The most populous city in India, *Mumbai* is the second most populous city in the world, with a

population of approximately 14 million. Mumbai lies on the west coast of India and has a deep natural harbour. The seven islands that came to constitute Bombay were home to communities of fishing colonies. During the mid-18th century, Bombay was reshaped by the British with large-scale civil engineering projects, aimed at merging all the seven islands into a single amalgamated mass, and emerged as a significant trading town. Economic and educational development characterized the city during the 19th century. It became a strong base for the Indian independence movement during the early 20th century. Mumbai is home to important financial institutions and the corporate headquarters of numerous Indian companies and multinational corporations. The city also houses India's Hindi film and television industry, known as Bollywood. Mumbai's business opportunities, as well as its potential to offer a higher standard of living, attract migrants from all over India, making the city a potpourri of many communities and cultures.

**23 the Indus**

The Indus River flows through Pakistan. The word "India" is derived from the Indus River.

**23 Ganges**

The Ganges is one of the major rivers of the Indian subcontinent, flowing east through the Gangetic Plain of northern India into Bangladesh. The 1,560 mile river rises in the western Himalayas in the Uttarakhand state of India, and drains into the Sunderbans delta in the Bay of Bengal. It has long been considered a holy river by Hindus and worshiped as the goddess *Ganga* in Hinduism. It has also been important historically: many former provincial or imperial capitals (such as Patliputra, Kannauj, Kara, Allahabad, Murshidabad, and Calcutta) have been located on its banks. The Ganges Basin supports one of the world's highest densities of humans. The river has been declared as India's National River.

**25 Pagoda**

A pagoda is the general term in the English language for a tiered tower with multiple eaves common in China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and other parts of Asia. Most pagodas were built to have a religious function and were often located in or near temples. The modern pagoda is an evolution of the Ancient Indian stupa, a tomb-like structure where sacred relics could be kept safe and venerated. The architectural structure of the stupa has spread across Asia, taking on many diverse forms as details specific to different regions are incorporated into the overall design.

**25 Malabar Hill**

Malabar Hill, a small hillock in southern Mumbai (formerly Bombay), India, is an extremely upmarket residential area, most known for the Walkeshwar Temple. Situated at a height of 165 feet, it is the highest point in South Mumbai. The British Governor of Bombay built a posh bungalow in the district in the 1820s, and the area has been highly desired ever since. The Malabar Hill district is arguably the most exclusive residential area in Mumbai, and is home to several business tycoons and film personalities. Houses here are amongst the most expensive in the world. Unhindered views of Back Bay, with the Girgaum Chowpatty beach in the foreground and the Nariman Point skyline in the background, are among the reasons for the sky-real-estate prices in this district (\$1200+ per square foot).

**25 the Pagoda at Malabar Hill**

Verne may be referring to Walkeshwar Temple, also known as the *Baan Ganga Temple*, a temple dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva located in Walkeshwar, near Malabar Hill neighborhood, in South Mumbai precinct of the city of Mumbai, India. It is situated at the highest point of the city. Originally built in 1127, it has been destroyed and rebuilt numerous times over the centuries and is surrounded by some 20 other temples.

**25 the Tower of Silence**

A Tower of Silence or *Dakhma* is a circular, raised structure used by Zoroastrians for exposure of the dead. Zoroastrian tradition considers a dead body unclean. To preclude the pollution of earth or fire, the bodies of the dead are placed atop a tower—a tower of silence—and so exposed to the sun and to birds of prey. Thus, "putrefaction with all its concomitant evils is most effectually

prevented." The towers, which are fairly uniform in their construction, have an almost flat roof, with the perimeter being slightly higher than the center. The roof is divided into three concentric rings: The bodies of men are arranged around the outer ring, women in the second circle, and children in the innermost ring. Once the bones have been bleached by the sun and wind, which can take as long as a year, they are collected in an ossuary pit at the center of the tower, where—assisted by lime—they gradually disintegrate and the remaining material—with run-off rainwater—runs through multiple coal and sand filters before being eventually washing out to sea.

**25 Parsi**

Parsi refers to a member of the larger of the two Zoroastrian communities of the Indian subcontinent. The term was originally used by the ancient Persians to refer to themselves. The influence of Arabic led to a drop in the *p* sound in the Persian language, changing "Parsi" to "Farsi" (the name by which the Persian language is now known). According to tradition, the present-day Parsis descend from a group of Iranian Zoroastrians who emigrated to Western India during 10th century CE due to persecution by Muslims in Iran. Zoroastrianism is a religion and philosophy based on the teachings of prophet Zoroaster (aka Zarathustra) founded in the early part of the 5th century BCE. In Zoroastrianism, the Creator Ahura Mazda is all good, and no evil originates from Him. Evil (*druj*) has a distinct source. The resulting conflict involves the entire universe, including humanity, which has an active role to play in the conflict. Active participation in life through good thoughts, good words, and good deeds is necessary to ensure happiness and to keep chaos at bay. This active participation is a central element in Zoroaster's concept of free will. Famous Parsis include conductor Zubin Mehta and Queen lead singer Freddie Mercury.

**25 join my troops**

In 1764 the East India Company, an early English joint-stock company formed initially for pursuing trade with the East Indies, acquired the civil rights of administration in Bengal from the Mughal Emperor. While the East India Company traded mainly in cotton, silk, indigo dye, saltpetre, tea, and opium, it also came to rule large swathes of India, exercising military power and assuming administrative functions, to the exclusion, gradually, of its commercial pursuits. In 1858 the British Crown assumed direct administration of India in the new British Raj, which lasted until the Indian subcontinent gained independence from Britain in 1947. During this time, many British soldiers spent their careers stationed in India.

**27 Burhampoor**

Burhanpur (which Verne seems to have misspelled) is situated on the north bank of the Tapti River 310 miles northeast of Mumbai (Bombay). The town is named after sufi saint Burhanuddin Gharib of Khuldabad. It is a beautiful city with many historic monuments.

**27 the Sutpour Mountains**

Presumably Verne means the Satpura Range, a range of hills in central India. At the time of the novel it was heavily forested.

**28 glade**

a tract of land with few or no trees in the middle of a wooded area

**28 Rothal**

The location of this town, if it ever existed, is no longer known.

**28 Feringhea, the King of the Stranglers**

Verne is referring to Thuggee, a particular form of murder and robbery that flourished in the Bengal region of northeast India in the years before railroad travel. At that time, most travelers in India journeyed in caravans for mutual support and security. In order to attempt the massacre of an entire caravan, a band of Thuggees needed to be numerous and well-coordinated. They also needed to be sufficiently stealthy, at least in the early stages, to begin their slaughter without rousing all their victims at once. This required a high degree of planning, organization, timing, teamwork, and discipline. These horrendous but sophisticated operations lay somewhere

between organized crime and paramilitary activity and were far removed from the ordinary criminal in the audacity, magnitude, and ruthlessness of the enterprise. Thuggees are often depicted using a garotte to strangle their victims, although head wraps and other scarves were often used as well. Although the Thuggees were mostly eradicated by the 1830s, small pockets of the cult may have continued to exist in secret; the advent of railroad travel, however, eventually rendered Thuggee methods obsolete. Verne probably got the name Feringhea from *Confessions of a Thug*, an English novel written by Philip Meadows Taylor in 1839. Ameer Ali, the anti-hero protagonist of the book, was said to be based on a real Thuggee called Syeed Amir Ali (or Feringhea), with whom the author was supposedly acquainted. The novel went on to become a best seller in 19th century Britain and one of Queen Victoria's favorite novels. The story of the Thuggee cult popularized by *Confessions of a Thug* led to the Hindi word "thug" entering the English language. The film *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* is based on the premise that Thuggee cults survived covertly into the early 20th century.

**28 the goddess of Death**

Kali is the Hindu goddess associated with eternal energy. Kali means "the black one." She is the consort of god Shiva, on whose body she is often seen standing. Since Shiva is called Kāla (the eternal Time), the name of Kālī, also means "the Time" or "Death" (as in "time has come"). Hence, Kali is considered the goddess of time and change. Although sometimes presented as dark and violent, she is considered by many to be the supreme goddess of the universe.

**29 Allahabad**

Allahabad is a city in north India. The ancient name of the city is Aggra (Sanskrit for "place of sacrifice"), and it is believed to be the spot where Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. It is one of four sites of the mass Hindu pilgrimage Kumbh Mela. It is important in Hindu scriptures for it is situated at the confluence, known as Triveni Sangam, of the holy rivers Ganges and Yamuna, and Hindu belief says that the invisible Sarasvati River also joins here. The first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru (1899-1964), was a native of Allahabad.

**30 I am training him for war**

A war elephant is an elephant trained and guided by humans for combat. Their main use was to charge the enemy, trampling them and breaking their ranks. They were probably first employed in India, the practice spreading out across south-east Asia and westwards into the Mediterranean. Their most famous use in the West was by the armies of Carthage, especially under Hannibal. In the Mediterranean, improved tactics reduced the value of the elephant in battle, while their availability in the wild also decreased. In the east, where supplies of animals were greater and the terrain ideal, it was the advent of cannon that finally concluded the use of the combat elephant at the end of the 19th century, limiting them thereafter to engineering and labor roles.

**31 two thousand pounds**

Today, £132,000, or \$200,000

**32 ten pounds an hour**

Today, £660, or \$1,000 an hour

**32 the litters**

seats suspended from either side of the back of the elephant for passengers to ride on

**32 the saddle cloth**

a cloth or blanket placed on the back of the elephant beneath the strapping that holds the litters

**33 clotted cream**

Clotted cream (also known as Devonshire cream) is a thick yellow cream made by heating unpasteurized cow's milk and then leaving it in shallow pans for several hours. During this time, the cream content rises to the surface and forms clots. Clotted cream is generally served on scones with strawberry or raspberry jam.

**34 Brahmins**

Brahmin is the class of educators, law makers, scholars, priests, and preachers of Dharma (righteous duty) in Hinduism. Brahmins have six occupational duties, of which three are compulsory: studying the Vedas (Hindu scripture), worshiping the Deity, and giving charity. By practicing the other three duties—teaching, inducing others to worship the Deity, and accepting gifts—they receive the necessities of life.

**34 suttee**

Sati (also known as suttee) is a funeral practice among some Hindu communities in which a recently widowed woman would either voluntarily or by use of force and coercion immolate herself on her husband's funeral pyre. The term is derived from the original name of the goddess Sati, who self-immolated because she was unable to bear her father's humiliation of her (living) husband. Brahmin scholars justified the practice using scriptures, lauding the practice as required conduct in righteous women. They explained that this was not considered to be suicide (suicide being otherwise variously banned or discouraged in the scriptures), but rather an act of peerless piety said to purge the couple of all accumulated sin, guarantee their salvation, and ensure their reunion in the afterlife. The act of *sati* is said to exist voluntarily; from the existing accounts, many of these acts did indeed occur voluntarily. The act may have been expected of widows in some communities, and the extent to which social pressures or expectations constitute compulsion has been much debated in modern times. However, there were also instances where the wish of the widow to commit *sati* was not welcomed by others, and where efforts were made to prevent the death. Likewise, many accounts exist of women being physically forced to their deaths. Pictorial and narrative accounts often describe the widow being seated on the unlit pyre, and then tied or otherwise restrained to keep her from fleeing after the fire was lit. Some accounts state that the woman was drugged. Sati often emphasized the marriage between the widow and her deceased husband. For instance, rather than mourning clothes, the to-be *sati* was often dressed in marriage robes or other finery. This practice is now rare and outlawed in modern India.

**34 Rajah**

Raja (also spelled Rajah) is the Hindustani term for a monarch or princely ruler.

**34 pyre**

A pyre, also known as a funeral pyre, is a structure, usually made of wood, for burning a body as part of a funeral rite. As a form of cremation, a body is placed upon the pyre, which is then set on fire.

**39 brandy**

Brandy (from brandywine, derived from Dutch *brandewijn*—"burnt wine") is a spirit produced by distilling wine, the wine having first been produced by fermenting grapes. Brandy generally contains 35%–60% alcohol by volume and is typically taken as an after-dinner drink.

**40 Calcutta**

Calcutta (since 2001 known as Kolkata) is located in eastern India on the east bank of the River Hooghly. Today the Kolkata metropolitan area including suburbs has a population exceeding 15 million, making it India's third-largest metropolitan area and the world's eighth largest. Calcutta was named the capital of British India in 1772. In the early 19th century the marshes surrounding the city were drained and the government area was laid out along the banks of the Hooghly River. The growth of the city and its public architecture led to the description of Calcutta as "The City of Palaces." The city was a center of the British East India Company's opium trade during the 18th and 19th century. By the early 19th century, Calcutta was split into two distinct areas—one British (known as the White Town), the other Indian (known as Black Town). The city underwent rapid industrial growth from the 1850s, especially in the textile and jute sectors; this caused a massive investment in infrastructure projects like railroads and telegraph by British government. The coalescence of British and Indian culture resulted in the emergence of a new *Babu* class of urbane Indians, whose members were often bureaucrats, professionals, read newspapers, were

Anglophiles, and usually belonged to upper-caste Hindu communities. Throughout the nineteenth century, a socio-cultural reform, often referred to as the *Bengal Renaissance*, resulted in the general uplifting of the people. Gradually Calcutta became a centre of the Indian independence movement, especially revolutionary organizations. These activities, along with the administratively disadvantageous location of Calcutta in the eastern fringes of India, prompted the British to move the capital to New Delhi in 1911.

- 41 **Mon dieu**  
French: my god
- 43 **three hundred pounds**  
Today, £19,800, or \$30,000
- 43 **one hundred and fifty pounds**  
Today, £9,900, or \$15,000
- 44 **one thousand pounds**  
Today, £66,000, or \$100,000
- 44 **the Rangoon**  
The ship is presumably named for Rangoon, the capital of Burma (now Myanmar) until 2006. Rangoon is translated as "End of Strife." "Rangoon" most likely comes from the British imitation of the pronunciation of "Yangon" in the Rakhine dialect of Burmese; Yangon is the name of the city today. With a population of more than four million, it continues to be the country's largest city and the most important commercial center.
- 45 **mal de merde**  
"Mal de mer" is French for sea-sick. Fix has confused *mer* (sea) with *merde* (shit).
- 45 **in my berth**  
The word berth was originally used to describe beds and sleeping accommodation on boats and ships, although it has now been extended to refer to similar facilities on trains, aircraft, and buses.
- 45 **the Gulf of Bengal**  
The Bay of Bengal, the largest bay of the world, forms the northeastern part of the Indian Ocean. It resembles a triangle in shape, and is bordered by Bangladesh and the Indian state of West Bengal (where the name comes from) to the north, India and Sri Lanka to the west, and Burma (Myanmar) and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to the east. The Bay of Bengal is known for its tropical storms and typhoons.
- 45 **the Indian Ocean**  
The Arabian Sea, bounded on the east by India, on the north by Pakistan and Iran, on the west by the Arabian Peninsula, is where the group sailed from Aden to Bombay. Balancing the Bay of Bengal on the northeast, the Arabian Sea is the northwestern portion of the Indian Ocean, the third largest of the world's oceanic divisions. Covering about 20% of the water on the Earth's surface, it is bounded on the north by South Asia (by five countries of the Indian subcontinent, after which it is named); on the west by Africa; on the east by Indochina, the Sunda Islands, and Australia; and on the south by Antarctica.
- 46 **gin**  
Gin is a spirit whose predominant flavor is derived from juniper berries. Developed in Holland, gin became popular in England after the government allowed unlicensed gin production and at the same time imposed a heavy duty on all imported spirits. This created a market for poor-quality grain that was unfit for brewing beer, and thousands of gin-shops sprang up throughout England. By 1740 the production of gin had increased to six times that of beer, and because of its cheapness gin became popular with the poor. Gin was blamed for various social and medical

problems. This negative reputation survives today in the English language, in terms like "gin-mills" or "gin-joints" to describe disreputable bars or "gin-soaked" to refer to drunks. In tropical British colonies, gin was used to mask the bitter flavor of quinine, which was the only effective anti-malarial compound. The quinine was dissolved in carbonated water to form tonic water, the resulting mix becoming the origin of today's popular gin and tonic combination, although modern tonic water contains only a trace of quinine as a flavoring.

**47 Singapore**

Singapore, officially the Republic of Singapore, is an island city-state off the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, 85 miles north of the equator, south of Malaysia and north of Indonesia. At 274.2 square miles, Singapore is a microstate and the smallest nation in Southeast Asia. (It is substantially larger than Monaco and Vatican City, the only other present-day sovereign city-states.) Singapore is the only country in Asia which has English as its first language. It also has one of the highest percentage of foreigners in the world: 36%. Singapore was under British colonial rule from 1819 to 1940. Consisting of 63 islands, including mainland Singapore, it has one of the busiest ports in the world and is the world's fourth largest foreign exchange trading center after London, New York City, and Tokyo.

**47 Hong Kong**

Hong Kong is a special administrative region of the People's Republic of China. Situated on China's south coast and enclosed by the Pearl River Delta and South China Sea, it is renowned for its expansive skyline and deep natural harbor. With land mass of 426 square miles and a population of seven million people, Hong Kong is one of the most densely populated areas in the world. Hong Kong runs on economic and political systems different from those of mainland China. Hong Kong is one of the world's leading international financial centers, with a major capitalist service economy characterized by low taxation, free trade, and minimum government intervention. The Hong Kong dollar is the 9th most traded currency in the world. Hong Kong became a colony of the British Empire after the First Opium War (1839–42). Originally confined to Hong Kong Island, the colony's boundaries were extended in stages to the Kowloon Peninsula and the New Territories by 1898. It was occupied by Japan during the Pacific War, after which the British resumed control until 1997, when China regained sovereignty.

**47 the Carnatic**

The ship is presumably named after the Carnatic coast, a region of southwestern India lying between the Eastern Ghats and the Coromandel Coast on the Arabian Sea. Prior to the novel, two British warships had been named the *Carnatic* in 1783 and 1823. A third ship, the SS *Carnatic*, a British steamship launched in 1862, operated on the Suez-Bombay run in the last years before the Suez Canal was opened. It ran aground in the Red Sea in 1969, with 31 passengers drowning. A large amount of gold (£40,000 worth, or \$2,000,000 today) sank, but was recovered within two weeks. Today the *Carnatic* is still a popular scuba diving destination.

**48 the Exchange**

The Hong Kong Stock exchange was not officially established until 1891, but informal securities exchanges are known to have taken place since at least 1861.

**48 broker**

A broker is a party that mediates between a buyer and a seller. A "brokerage" or a "brokerage firm" is a business that acts as a broker. A brokerage firm is a business that specializes in trading stocks. A sales person working for a securities or commodity brokerage firm is popularly (but incorrectly) called a "broker." A broker in that context is, strictly speaking, an exchange member who is actually executing the purchase or sales order in the "pit," on the exchange, as a service to the client of the firm for which that salesman works.

**48 Move Holland. Raise tulips.**

The tulip is a flower indigenous to a vast area encompassing parts of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Commercial cultivation of the tulip began in the Ottoman Empire (Turkey). The word *tulip* is related to the word *turban*. The tulip first arrived in Holland just before 1600 and soon became wildly popular. Today the Netherlands are still considered the center of the tulip industry.

**49 cabins**

A cabin or berthing is an enclosed space generally on a ship or an aircraft.

**49 the Opium Wars**

a reference to the Opium Wars, the climax of trade disputes and diplomatic difficulties between China under the Qing Dynasty and the British Empire after China sought to restrict British opium traffickers. Opium was smuggled by merchants from British India into China in defiance of Chinese prohibition laws. Open warfare between Britain and China broke out in 1839, lasting until 1842. Further disputes over the treatment of British merchants in Chinese ports resulted in the Second Opium War from 1856 to 1860. China was defeated in both wars, leaving its government having to tolerate the opium trade. Britain forced the Chinese government into signing the Treaty of Nanking and the Treaty of Tianjin, also known as the Unequal Treaties, which included provisions for the opening of additional ports to unrestricted foreign trade, for fixed tariffs; for the recognition of both countries as equal in correspondence; and for the cession of Hong Kong to Britain. The British also gained extraterritorial rights. Several countries followed Britain and sought similar agreements with China. Many Chinese found these agreements humiliating and these sentiments contributed to the Taiping Rebellion (1850–1864), the Boxer Rebellion (1899–1901), and the downfall of the Qing Dynasty in 1912, putting an end to dynastic China.

**50 *si vous plais***

French: if you please

**51 opium house**

An opium den was an establishment where opium was sold and smoked. Opium dens were prevalent in many parts of the world in the 19th century, most notably China, Southeast Asia, North America, and France. Throughout the West, opium dens were frequented by and associated with the Chinese because the establishments were usually run by Chinese who supplied the opium as well as prepared it for visiting non-Chinese smokers. Most opium dens kept a supply of opium paraphernalia such as the specialized pipes and lamps that were necessary to smoke the drug. Patrons would recline in order to hold the long opium pipes over oil lamps that would heat the drug until it vaporized, allowing the smoker to inhale the vapors. Opium dens in China were frequented by all levels of society, and their opulence or simplicity reflected the financial means of the patrons. In urban areas of the United States, particularly on the West Coast, there were opium dens that mirrored the best to be found in China, with luxurious trappings and female attendants. For the working class, there were also many low-end dens with sparse furnishings. These latter dens were more likely to admit non-Chinese smokers.

**51 the Celestial Empire**

The Celestial Empire is an old nickname for China, a direct translation of the Chinese term *Tian Chao*, meaning empire of heaven.

**53 two thousand pounds**

Today, £132,000, or \$200,000

**56 the Tankadere**

It is not known where how Verne developed the name for this ship.

**56 between 10 and 15 knots the hour**

11.5 to 17.3 miles per hour.

- 57 **sixteen hundred and sixty miles**  
the same as the distance from Las Vegas to Minneapolis.
- 58 **We are carrying all the sail the wind will let us.**  
A sailing vessel that is carrying too much sail for the current wind conditions is said to be over-canvassed. An over-canvassed boat, whether a dinghy, a yacht or a sailing ship, is difficult to steer and control, and tends to heel or roll too much. If the wind continues to rise, an over-canvassed sailing boat will become dangerous, and ultimately gear may break, or it may round-up into the wind, broach, or capsize. Any of these eventualities puts the safety of the crew and the vessel in danger. To over-canvass a sailing boat is considered unseamanlike and imprudent. In order to reduce sail, individual sails may be lowered or furled, and existing sails may be reefed. Counter-intuitively, many boats will sail faster, and certainly more smoothly, comfortably, and safely, when carrying the correct amount of sail in a strong wind than it would if over-canvassed and excessively rolling, heeling, carrying too much weather helm, and regularly rounding up.
- 59 **124 degrees East Longitude and 30 degrees North Latitude**  
Latitude is the angle from a point on the Earth's surface to the equatorial plane, measured from the center of the sphere. Lines joining points of the same latitude are called parallels, which trace concentric circles on the surface of the Earth, parallel to the equator. The north pole is 90° N; the south pole is 90° S. The 0° parallel of latitude is designated the equator, the fundamental plane of all geographic coordinate systems. The equator divides the globe into Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Longitude is the angle east or west of a reference meridian between the two geographical poles to another meridian that passes through an arbitrary point. All meridians are halves of great circles, and are not parallel. They converge at the north and south poles. A line passing to the rear of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich (near London in the United Kingdom), has been chosen as the international zero-longitude reference line, the Prime Meridian. Places to the east are in the eastern hemisphere, and places to the west are in the western hemisphere. The antipodal meridian of Greenwich is both 180°W and 180°E. The point that Mr. Fogg defines is about 150 miles southeast of Shanghai, China, and about 350 miles west of the southern tip of Japan
- 60 **Beneath her long silken lashes, in the black pupils of her great clear eyes, swims, as in the sacred lakes of Himalaya, the purest reflections of celestial light. And beneath the silken folds of her tunic she seems to have been modeled in pure gold by the hand of God himself.**  
In Chapter 14 of the book, after Aouda is rescued and begins to recover from her ordeal, Verne uses a poetic quote to suggest her beauty:  
"When the poet-king, Ucaf Uddaul, celebrates the charms of the queen of Ahmehnagara, he speaks thus:  
"Her shining tresses, divided in two parts, encircle the harmonious contour of her white and delicate cheeks, brilliant in their glow and freshness. Her ebony brows have the form and charm of the bow of Kama, the god of love, and beneath her long silken lashes the purest reflections and a celestial light swim, as in the sacred lakes of Himalaya, in the black pupils of her great clear eyes. Her teeth, fine, equal, and white, glitter between her smiling lips like dewdrops in a passion-flower's half-enveloped breast. Her delicately formed ears, her vermillion hands, her little feet, curved and tender as the lotus-bud, glitter with the brilliancy of the loveliest pearls of Ceylon, the most dazzling diamonds of Golconda. Her narrow and supple waist, which a hand may clasp around, sets forth the outline of her rounded figure and the beauty of her bosom, where youth in its flower displays the wealth of its treasures; and beneath the silken folds of her tunic she seems to have been modeled in pure silver by the godlike hand of Vicvarcarma, the immortal sculptor.'  
"It is enough to say, without applying this poetical rhapsody to Aouda, that she was a charming woman...."  
Ahmehnagara is probably a reference to Ahmednagar, a city in western India. The poet-king Ucaf Uddaul seems to be an invention of Verne's, as is presumably the quote itself.

- 60 **typhoon**  
 A tropical cyclone occurring in the western Pacific or Indian oceans. Depending on its location and strength, a tropical cyclone is referred to by such names as hurricane, typhoon, tropical storm, cyclonic storm, tropical depression, or simply cyclone.
- 65 **Yokohama**  
 Yokohama lies on Tokyo Bay, south of Tokyo, in the Kantō region of the main island of Honshū in Japan. It is a major commercial hub of the Greater Tokyo Area. Yokohama was a small fishing village up to the end of the feudal Edo period, when Japan held a policy of national seclusion, having little contact with foreigners. A major turning point in Japanese history happened in 1853–54, when Commodore Matthew Perry arrived just south of Yokohama with a fleet of American warships, demanding that Japan open several ports for commerce, and the Tokugawa shogunate agreed by signing the Treaty of Peace and Amity. The Port of Yokohama was opened in 1859. Yokohama quickly became the base of foreign trade in Japan. The port was developed for trading silk, the main trading partner being Great Britain. Many Western influences first reached Japan in Yokohama, including Japan's first daily newspaper (1870) and first gas-powered street lamps (1872). Japan's first railway was constructed in the same year to connect Yokohama to Shinagawa and Shinbashi in Tokyo.
- 65 **the General Grant**  
 There was a real steamship called the *General Grant* which served the Union Navy as the *USS Grand Gulf* from 1863 to 1865 during the Civil War. Subsequently renamed the *General Grant*, the ship operated commercially between New York and New Orleans until it was destroyed by fire in 1869. Verne may or may not have been thinking of this ship when he named his trans-Pacific steamer. Obviously the name comes from Ulysses S. Grant (1822–1885), 18th President of the United States from 1869 to 1877. As general-in-chief of the Union Army during the American Civil War, he led the North to victory against the Confederate States in the Civil War.
- 67 **the Golden Gate Bay**  
 The Golden Gate is the North American strait connecting San Francisco Bay (which Verne seems to have misnamed) to the Pacific Ocean. Since 1937 it has been spanned by the Golden Gate Bridge. Technically, the "gate" is defined by the headlands of the San Francisco Peninsula and the Marin Peninsula, while the "strait" is the water flowing in between. During the California gold rush of 1848–1850s, San Francisco Bay instantly became one of the world's greatest seaports, dominating shipping and transportation in the American West until the last years of the nineteenth century. The bay's regional importance became paramount when the transcontinental railroad reached its western terminus in Alameda and soon after Oakland Long Wharf in 1869.
- 67 **San Francisco**  
 San Francisco is the fourth most populous city in California and the 12th most populous city in the United States. In 1776, the Spanish established a fort at the Golden Gate and a mission named for Francis of Assisi on the site. The California Gold Rush in 1848 propelled the city into a period of rapid growth, increasing the population in one year from 1,000 to 25,000, and thus transforming it into the largest city on the West Coast at the time. California was quickly granted statehood, and the U.S. military built Fort Point at the Golden Gate and a fort on Alcatraz Island to secure the San Francisco Bay. Silver discoveries, including the Comstock Lode in 1859, further drove rapid population growth. With hordes of fortune seekers streaming through the city, lawlessness was common, and the Barbary Coast section of town gained notoriety as a haven for criminals, prostitution, and gambling. Many San Francisco entrepreneurs sought to capitalize on the wealth generated by the Gold Rush. Among the winners were the banking industry, which saw the founding of Wells Fargo in 1852 and the Bank of California in 1864. The development of the Port of San Francisco established the city as a center of trade. Catering to the needs and tastes of the growing population, Levi Strauss opened a dry goods business and Domingo Ghirardelli began manufacturing chocolate. Immigrant laborers made the city a polyglot culture, with Chinese railroad workers creating the city's Chinatown quarter. The first cable cars carried

San Franciscans up Clay Street in 1873. The city's sea of Victorian houses began to take shape, and civic leaders campaigned for a spacious public park, resulting in plans for Golden Gate Park. San Franciscans built schools, churches, theatres, and all the hallmarks of civic life. The Presidio developed into the most important American military installation on the Pacific coast. By the turn of the century, San Francisco was a major city known for its flamboyant style, stately hotels, ostentatious mansions on Nob Hill, and a thriving arts scene.

**67 six-barreled revolvers**

A revolver is a repeating firearm that has a cylinder containing multiple chambers and at least one barrel for firing. As the user cocks the hammer, the cylinder revolves to align the next chamber and round with the hammer and barrel, which gives this type of firearm its name. A Six Gun is a revolver that holds six bullets. The classic six gun was commonly carried by Old West cowboys and gunfighters. The basic operation of the six gun is:

The hammer is cocked with the thumb, which rotates the cylinder to line up a new cartridge with the barrel, and positions the hammer for firing.

The trigger is pulled, which causes the hammer to drop and sharply push the firing pin into the cartridge primer, firing the gun.

The hammer must be cocked again for the next shot. This is called "Single Action."

**68 the Rocky Mountains**

The Rocky Mountains are a major mountain range in western North America. The Rocky Mountains stretch more than 2,980 miles from the northernmost part of British Columbia, in western Canada, to New Mexico, in the southwestern United States. The range's highest peak is Mount Elbert located in Colorado at 14,440 feet above sea level. The Rockies were formed about 70 million years ago. Since then, erosion by water and glaciers has sculpted the mountain range into dramatic valleys and peaks. At the end of the last ice age, humans started to inhabit the mountain range. After Europeans started to explore the range, minerals and furs drove the initial economic exploitation of the mountains, although the range has never become densely populated. With the expansion of the American West, thousands passed through the Rocky Mountains on the Oregon Trail beginning in 1842. The Mormons began to settle near the Great Salt Lake in 1847. From 1859 to 1864, gold was discovered in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia, sparking several gold rushes bringing thousands of prospectors and miners to explore every mountain and canyon and to create the Rocky Mountains' first major industry. The transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869, and Yellowstone National Park was established as the world's first national park in 1872. Currently, much of the mountain range is protected by parks, and is a popular tourist destination, especially for skiing.

**68 the American plains**

The Great Plains are the broad expanse of prairie and grassland which lie west of the Mississippi River and east of the Rocky Mountains in the United States and Canada. This area covers parts of the U.S. states of Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. The region is about 500 miles east to west and 2,000 miles north to south. Much of the region was home to American Bison herds until they were hunted to near extinction during the mid/late 1800s, especially after extension of the railroad across the Plains allowed hunters easy access to the herds. Encroaching settlement by migrant farmers and ranchers led to increasing competition and conflict with Native Americans. In the end, settlers created so much political pressure that the United States removed the tribes to Indian reservations in the 1870s. Conflicts generally known as "Indian Wars" broke out between American government and Native American societies. These conflicts were catalysts to the decline of dominant Native American culture. By 1872, the U.S. Army pursued a policy to exterminate all Native Americans unless or until they agreed to surrender and live on reservations "where they could be taught Christianity and agriculture."

**69 the iron wires that hold up the bridge**

A suspension bridge is a type of bridge in which the deck (the load-bearing portion) is hung below suspension cables on vertical suspenders. This type of bridge dates from the early 19th century. It has cables suspended between towers, plus vertical *suspender cables* that carry the weight of the deck below, upon which traffic crosses. The suspension cables must be anchored at each end of the bridge, since any load applied to the bridge is transformed into a tension in these main cables. The main cables continue beyond the pillars to deck-level connections with anchors in the ground at either end of the bridge. The roadway is supported by vertical suspender cables or rods, called hangers. Famous suspension bridges include the Golden Gate Bridge and the Brooklyn Bridge.

**69 Medicine Bow**

Medicine Bow is a town in southwestern Wyoming. The population was 274 at the 2000 census. Like many other towns across southern Wyoming, it was established as a result of the construction of the transcontinental railroad in 1868, with a depot, water stop, and coal-loading facility. Later, Medicine Bow became an important livestock shipping center. The first load of cattle shipped to the Union Stockyards in Omaha came from the Medicine Bow area. In the middle 1880s, Philadelphia lawyer Owen Wister stopped in town and wrote a description in his journal. He later used the historic setting of Medicine Bow as a backdrop for his novel *The Virginian*, which is considered to be the first novel of the "Western" Genre.

**69 Omaha**

Omaha is the largest city in the state of Nebraska. It is located on eastern edge of the state, about 20 miles north of the mouth of the Platte River. Omaha's pioneer period began in 1854 when the city was founded by speculators from neighboring Council Bluffs, Iowa. The city was founded along the Missouri River, and a crossing called Lone Tree Ferry earned the city its nickname, the "Gateway to the West." During the 19th century, Omaha's central location in the United States caused the city to become an important national transportation hub. The eastern terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad was Omaha. Throughout the rest of the 19th century, the transportation and jobbing sectors were important in the city, along with its railroads and breweries.

**70 ford**

a shallow area in a stream that can be crossed by wading or on a horse

**74 hence**

from this time

**77 Apache**

Apache is the collective term for several culturally related groups of Native Americans in the American Southwest. Apachean peoples formerly ranged over eastern Arizona, northwestern Mexico, New Mexico, Texas, and the southern Great Plains. There was little political unity among the Apachean groups, who spoke seven different languages. The Apachean tribes were historically very powerful, opposed to the Spaniards and European Mexicans for centuries. In 19th century confrontations, the U.S. Army found the Apache to be fierce warriors and skillful strategists. The warfare between Apachean peoples and Euro-Americans has led to a stereotypical focus on certain aspects of Apachean cultures that are often distorted through misperception as noted by anthropologist Keith Basso: "Of the hundreds of peoples that lived and flourished in native North America, few have been so consistently misrepresented as the Apacheans of Arizona and New Mexico. Glorified by novelists, sensationalized by historians, and distorted beyond credulity by commercial film makers, the popular image of 'the Apache'—a brutish, terrifying semi-human bent upon wanton death and destruction—is almost entirely a product of irresponsible caricature and exaggeration."

**79 Fort Kearney**

Fort Kearny was a historic outpost of the United States Army founded in 1848 in the western U.S. during the middle and late 19th century. The outpost was located along the Oregon Trail near present-day Kearney, Nebraska, which took its name from the fort (with a modification of spelling). The fort was intended mostly as a supply post, and not as a defensive position in the Indian Wars. Throughout most of its history, the fort consisted mostly of wooden buildings surrounding a central parade ground without fortified walls. Although it was in the heart of area inhabited by Native Americans, and was near the center of hostile action in the 1860s, no direct attack was ever made on the fort. In 1871, two years after the completion of the transcontinental railroad, the fort was discontinued as a military post. Its buildings were disassembled and moved West to outfit newer posts.

**79 the cavalry**

Cavalry were soldiers or warriors who fought mounted on horseback. Cavalry were historically the third oldest (after infantry and chariots) and the most mobile of the combat arms. Cavalry regiments served throughout the Indian Wars through the close of the frontier in the 1890s. Throughout this period, the cavalryman was armed with Colt Single Action Army .45 caliber revolvers and single shot Springfield carbines (rifles). Sabres were issued but not carried on campaign.

**82 the Arkansas River**

The Arkansas River is a major tributary of the Mississippi River. Beginning in the Rocky Mountains in central Colorado, the Arkansas generally flows to the east and southeast through southwestern Kansas, northeastern Oklahoma, and across central Arkansas. It flows about 100 miles south of Fort Kearney.

**84 *au revoir***

French: goodbye (literally, until we see each other again)

**85 peace pipe**

Native American ceremonial pipes have often been given the misnomer "peace pipe," a European construct based on only one type of pipe and one way it was used. Various types of ceremonial pipes have been used by multiple Native American cultures, with the style of pipe, materials smoked, and ceremonies being unique to the distinct religions of those Nations. In ceremonial usage, the smoke is believed to carry prayers to the attention of the Creator or other powerful spirits. A common material for pipe bowls is red pipestone or catlinite, a fine-grained easily-worked stone of a rich red color of the Coteau des Prairies, west of the Big Stone Lake in South Dakota. The pipestone quarries have traditionally been neutral ground among warring tribes, as people from multiple nations journeyed to the quarry to obtain the sacred pipestone. Some ceremonial pipes are adorned with feathers, fur, human or animal hair, beadwork, quills, carvings, or other items having significance for the owner. Other pipes are very simple. Many are not kept by an individual, but are instead held collectively by a medicine society or similar ceremonial organization. A type of herbal tobacco or mixture of herbs was usually reserved for special smoking occasions, with each region's people using the plants that were locally considered to have special qualities or a culturally condoned basis for ceremonial use.

**86 sledge**

A sledge or sled is a sliding vehicle designed to transport passengers and/or cargo by using a running mechanism and smooth undersides instead of wheels. Most sleds are used on surfaces with low friction (such as snow or ice), but, in some cases, mud, grass, or even smooth stones make a good surface for sleds.

**87 rigged**

Rigging is the apparatus through which the force of the wind is used to propel sailboats and sailing ships forward. This includes masts, yardarms, sails, and cordage.

- 87 **sloop**  
 A sloop is a sail boat with a fore-and-aft rig and a single mast rather far forward. Sloops are designed to optimize upwind sailing. However, sloops also offer an excellent overall acceptable compromise, if not optimal, to all points of sail.
- 87 **brigantine**  
 A brigantine is a vessel with two masts, only the forward of which is square rigged.
- 87 **jib sail**  
 A jib is a triangular staysail set ahead of the foremast of a sailing boat. Its tack is fixed to the bowsprit, to the bow, or to the deck between the bowsprit and the foremost mast.
- 87 **Hoist the sails**  
 To raise or haul up the sails with or without the help of a mechanical apparatus.
- 87 **Secure the rigging**  
 to attach the ends of the sails to their proper points
- 87 **the lashings**  
 A lashing is an arrangement of rope used to secure two or more items together in a somewhat rigid manner. Lashings are most commonly applied to timber poles, such as masts or spars on a ship.
- 88 **the Platte River**  
 The Platte River is a river in Nebraska, approximately 310 mi long. It is a tributary of the Missouri River, which in turn is a tributary of the Mississippi River. It is formed by the confluence of the North Platte from Wyoming and the South Platte from Colorado. Ceded to the United States in the Louisiana Purchase, the Platte was explored and mapped in 1820. The Platte was used by American trappers, and the Great Platte River Road played an important role in westward expansion during the 19th century. It provided fresh water, game, and a clear path westward for pioneers. Both the Oregon Trail and the Mormon Trail followed the Platte (and the North Platte). In the 1860s, the Platte and North Platte furnished the route of the Pony Express and later for the Union Pacific portion of the first transcontinental railroad. In the 20th century, its valley was used for the route of the Lincoln Highway and later for Interstate 80, which parallels the Platte and the North Platte through much of Nebraska.
- 88 **the Mississippi**  
 The Mississippi River is the largest river system in the United States and the largest of North America. About 2,320 miles long, the river originates at Lake Itasca, Minnesota, and flows slowly southwards in sweeping meanders, terminating 95 river miles below New Orleans, Louisiana where it begins to flow to the Gulf of Mexico. Along with its major tributary, the Missouri River, the river drains all or parts of 31 states stretching from the Rocky Mountains in the west to the Appalachian Mountains in the east to the Canada-U.S. border on the north, including most of the Great Plains. It is the fourth longest river in the world and the tenth most powerful river in the world.
- 89 **the China**  
 China is one of the world's oldest continuous civilizations. The Chinese have traditionally called their own land *Zhōngguó*, meaning Middle Kingdom. The word "China" is derived from *Cin*, a Persian name for China popularized in Europe by Marco Polo.
- 90 **the *Henrietta***  
 The ship might be named for a woman or any of half a dozen towns across the United States.

**90 Bordeaux**

Bordeaux is a port city on the Garonne River near the Atlantic Ocean in southwest France. It has been one of France's major ports since the 12<sup>th</sup> century, with many commercial links to Britain and the Low Countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and parts of northern France and western Germany).

**91 Sandy Hook**

Sandy Hook is a barrier spit (a narrow strip of sand that parallels the mainland coast) about 6 miles long and varying between 0.10 and 1 miles wide along the Atlantic Ocean coast of eastern New Jersey. The barrier spit encloses the southern entrance of Lower New York Bay south of New York City. Throughout history, Sandy Hook has formed a convenient anchorage for ships before proceeding into Upper New York Harbor.

**92 ship engineer**

A ship engineer is responsible for maintaining and repairing a ship's equipment, including its engine, generators, boiler, and pumps.

**93 pickaroon**

another word for pirate or plunderer, from the Spanish *picarón*, "great rogue"

**94 frames**

the structural part of the cabins of the ship

**94 spars**

the cross beams on the sails

**94 fittings**

a British term for furnishings or fixtures

**94 top sides**

the surface of a ship's hull that is above the water line

**95 the Custom House**

A Custom House was a building housing the offices for the government officials who processed the paperwork for the import and export of goods into and out of a country. A Custom House was typically located in a seaport acting as a port of entry into a country. The government had officials at such locations to collect taxes and regulate commerce.

**101 Marylebone Parish**

(pronounced *MARR-i-bən*). St Marylebone Parish Church is a church in London, from which Marylebone gets its name. Marylebone is an affluent, inner-city area of central London, located within the City of Westminster. Lord Byron was baptized in the church in 1788 and Richard Brinsley Sheridan was married there. Charles Dickens's son was baptized there (a ceremony fictionalized in *Dombey and Son*) and Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett were married in the church in 1846.

## Resources

### Books

*Jules Verne: An Exploratory Biography* by Herbert R. Lottman  
*The Political and Social Ideas of Jules Verne* by Jean Chesneaux  
*Jules Verne: Inventor of Science Fiction* by Peter Costello  
*Jules Verne: The Definitive Biography* by William Butcher  
*A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* by Mark Twain  
*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle, 1963 Newbery Medal winner  
*From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg, 1967 Newbery Medal winner  
*Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift  
*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen, 1988 Newbery Honor Book  
*James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl  
*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain  
*The Art of Rough Travel: From the Peculiar to Practical, Advice from a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Explorer* by Francis Galton  
*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis  
*The Most Scenic Drives in America: 120 Spectacular Road Trips* by Robert J. Dolezal  
*The Time Machine* by H. G. Wells  
*The Travel Book: A Journey through Every Country in the World* by Lonely Planet  
*The Twenty-One Balloons* by William Pene du Bois, 1948 Newbery Medal  
*1000 Places to See before You Die* by Patricia Schultz

### DVDs

*Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express*  
*Doctor Dolittle* (1967 Rex Harrison version)  
*Goldfinger*  
*Hidalgo*  
*It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*  
*Around the World in Eighty Days* (1956 Best Picture Oscar winner)  
*Jackie Chan's Around the World in 80 Days*  
*Jeeves & Wooster* (British TV series based on the famed P. G. Wodehouse books)  
*Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?*  
*Romancing the Stone*  
*Saint Ralph*  
*Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*  
*The Great Race*  
*The Pink Panther*  
*Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines*

### Websites

<http://www.online-literature.com/verne/>  
<http://www.julesverne.ca/> - The Jules Verne Collecting Resource Page  
<http://www.literature.org/authors/verne-jules/>

## Discussion Questions

### Before seeing the play:

How are television and films different from live theatre? How do those differences encourage audiences to respond differently?

Look at the text glossary and familiarize yourself with some of the language specific to the story and its setting, characters, and period.

What are the elements of romance? What are the different definitions of "romance?" While watching the play, note how those elements are presented in the language, the scenic elements, the staging, and the actions of the characters.

Most of the actors in this adaptation of *Around the World in 80 Days* play multiple characters. While watching the production, note all the things the actors do, beyond their costume changes, to differentiate their roles. Discuss your discoveries in class.

### After seeing the play:

In the play, the character Gauthier Ralph says, "The world has grown smaller since a man can now go round it ten times more quickly than a hundred years ago." Discuss today's view of the size of the world with all our existing technology and America's ongoing influx of immigrants from countless countries.

What is a gentleman? What does Phileas Fogg do to qualify as a gentleman? How and why have the actions of a gentleman changed during the last one hundred years?

Have our attitudes towards jobs of servitude changed since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century? Why or why not? How do these views differ around the world?

Think of a difficult project you recently completed. Was it worth the effort? How do you come to this decision? How do you measure the value of something in your life?

Discuss gender differences as seen in this play. How are they different and/or the same as today? Ask your parents about gender relations when they were your age.

Discuss the technical elements of the production: Sets, costumes, lights, music, sound. How did these design elements exceed, fulfill, or differ from your expectations of how the show would be presented? Consider aspects such as color, texture, contrast, harmony, and ingenuity. Write a review at [RTlive.com](http://RTlive.com).

Discuss why the modes of transportation used in the story (trains and steamships) are less popular in this century. How might older generations feel differently? Why are cruises and sightseeing train trips different? What images do we associate with train and ship travel?

Discuss the differences in manners, courtesies, and customs between the 1872 era of *Around the World in 80 Days* and our current society. What has brought about these changes in manners, courtesies, and customs? Might these changes be looked upon as good or bad? Why or why not? How might generations view this question differently?

What writing and performance elements make this play a comedy?

What is the difference between a stereotype and an archetype? Would you consider the characters that Fogg encounters around the world to be stereotypes or archetypes? Why? What about the central characters of Fogg and Passepartout, Aouda and Fix? Might they be seen as stereotypes or archetypes? Why? Are there truths to be found in stereotypes? Why or why not? Is it possible to make a distinction between such comments depending on who is saying them and to whom, and their tone or attitude? Why do we find humor in potentially offensive stereotypes?

Why do you think Phileas Fogg hides his feelings from Aouda? Look at his response to her question, "And saving my life ... was that simply mathematics?" How do you suppose his words might make her feel? How does she later reveal in the play her reaction to his response? Are the two characters justified in their manner of relating to each other? Why or why not?

## Writing Prompts

Passepartout talks about his prized family heirloom watch throughout the play. Write about one of your family's heirlooms. What is its history? Is it still in use? When and how? What plans does your family have for its future?

Write about a place where you would love to travel. Tell your audience why you want to travel there, what surprising things you hope to discover, what transformative effect you believe visiting this location might have on you.

Like most of Jules Verne's novels, *Around the World in Eighty Days* was originally published as a serial; that is, individual chapters appeared in successive issues of a magazine. Write a short adventure story in serialized fashion over the course of a week or two. Before you start writing your daily segments, plot your story outline, create character profiles, and do any necessary research. You might also want to create a one-line synopsis of what will be revealed in each day's piece. Think about how to end each segment so your readers will anticipate the next!

Choose someone you know closely and write about his or her attributes. What makes him or her special in this world? What endears him or her to you and to others? This project can be a good way to expand your use and knowledge of various adjectives, similes, and metaphors. Instead of this person being just "great," they might be "luminous, with a heart as generous as the deep azure waters of God's ocean."

## Activities

Research the historically British-occupied territories. Find out when and how they became “British soil” and when and how these countries gained their independence.

For fun, the next time you are in a large grocery store check out the international food aisle and the dairy section for scones, clotted cream, and other foods from the countries where Phileas Fogg and company live and travel.

Gather some friends and family and go to a high tea or host your own. There are books at your local library or bookstore, or look online. Here is a website to get you started: [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_2170268\\_host-high-tea.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_2170268_host-high-tea.html)

Chart your own course around the world from your home town. Create a photo collage and travel itinerary of your adventure to present to your class. Include contemporary structures and attractions in your trip as well as historic sites and natural wonders. Your pictures should include native peoples, modes of transportation you would use, and unique sites and events happening in the countries where you would travel.

Do some research on trains and train travel. When was it the most popular form of transportation and why? How did tracks get laid across the United States and who laid them? How did trains affect the development of towns and commerce across the United States? What is their primary purpose today? Learn about luxury trains still in operation.

Choose a chapter from one of your favorite books and write a stage adaptation. See how simple you can make your stage presentation, using imagination and creativity to keep the story moving swiftly. How can your actors play multiple roles?

The play mentions certain countries and what they are noted for, such as Holland and tulips, China and the silk trade, etc. In groups make a list of cities in the United States and abroad. Exchange your list with another group and research what is famous about that city. For example: Indianapolis: The 500, the world’s largest Children’s Museum....

Look at the poetic language in this play. Read aloud some poetry that expounds natural or personal beauty. Poets to look at might include Shakespeare, Pablo Neruda, William Wordsworth, Langston Hughes, or Emily Dickinson.

Choose one from the following list of famous French authors whose works have some relationship to the theatre, research his or her life, read at least one of his or her famous works, and report to your class.

Jean Anouilh	Pierre Corneille	Victor Hugo	Jean Racine
Pierre Beaumarchais	Alexandre Dumas <i>fil</i> s	Eugene Ionesco	Edmond Rostand
Albert Camus	Alexandre Dumas <i>père</i>	Gaston Leroux	Jean Paul Sartre
Jean Cocteau	Antoine De Saint Exupéry	Pierre de Marivaux	Voltaire
Colette	Georges Feydeau	Molière	Emil Zola
	Gustave Flaubert	Charles Perrault	

# Following Phileas Fogg

or

## *Around the World in 80 Hours*

What if you wanted to quickly journey around the world to win a bet today?  
Of course, you would fly. Here is an itinerary following Fogg's route:

### **London (LHR) to Cairo (CAI)**

Depart: LHR 5/28 @ 3:00 PM  
Arrive: CAI 5/28 @ 9:45 PM  
Flight Time: 4 hr 45 min  
Flight: Egyptair 778 (nonstop)

*1 hr 15 min layover in CAI*

### **Cairo (CAI) to Mumbai (BOM)**

Depart: CAI 5/28 @ 11:00 PM  
Arrive: BOM 5/29 @ 5:35 PM  
Flight Time: 16 hr 5 min  
Flights: Egyptair 910 to Dubai, Egyptair 502 to Mumbai

*25 min layover in BOM*

### **Mumbai (BOM) to Kolkata (CCU)**

Depart: BOM 5/29 @ 6:00 PM  
Arrive: CCU 5/29 @ 8:30 PM  
Flight Time: 2 hr 30 min  
Flight: Kingfisher Airlines 513 (nonstop)

*15 min layover in CCU*

### **Kolkata (CCU) to Hong Kong (HKG)**

Depart: CCU 5/29 @ 8:45 PM  
Arrive: HKG 5/30 @ 12:30 PM  
Flight Time: 13 hr 15 min  
Flights: Jet Airways 7102 to Delhi, Jet Airways 64 to Bangkok, Cathay Pacific 2700 to Hong Kong

*1 hr 40 min layover in HKG*

### **Hong Kong (HKG) to San Francisco (QSF)**

Depart: HKG 5/30 @ 2:10 PM  
Arrive: QSF 5/30 @ 11:35 AM  
Flight Time: 12 hr 25 min  
Flight: Cathay Pacific 870 (nonstop)

*1 hr 5 min layover in QSF*

### **San Francisco (QSF) to New York (JFK)**

Depart: QSF 5/30 @ 12:40 PM  
Arrive: JFK 5/30 @ 9:26 PM  
Flight Time: 5 hr 46 min  
Flight: United 10 (nonstop)

*34 min layover in JFK*

**New York (JFK) to Liverpool (LPL)**

Depart: JFK 5/30 @ 10:00 PM  
Arrive: LPL 5/31 @ 4:50 PM  
Flight Time: 13 hr 50 min  
Flights: Northwest Airlines 8644 to Amsterdam, NWA 8717 to Liverpool

*1 hr 58 min layover in Liverpool*

**TRAIN Liverpool to London**

Depart: Liverpool 5/31 @ 6:48 PM  
Arrive: London 5/31 @ 9:03 PM  
Train Time: 2 hr 15 min  
Train: Train 1848

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*Travel Time:* 70 hr 51 min  
*Layover Time:* 7 hr 12 min  
*Total Time:* 78 hr 3 min or 3.252083 days

*Total Cost:* \$6,026.61

Today, however, there are even quicker, more direct routes:

**London (LHR) to Hong Kong (HKG)**

Depart: LHR 5/28 @ 12:35 PM  
Arrive: HKG 5/29 @ 7:10 AM  
Flight Time: 11 hr 35 min  
Flight: Cathay Pacific 252 (nonstop)

*1 hr 40 min layover in HKG*

**Hong Kong (HKG) to Los Angeles (LAX)**

Depart: HKG 5/29 @ 8:50 AM  
Arrive: LAX 5/29 @ 8:40 AM  
Flight Time: 14 hr 50 min  
Flights: Northwest Airlines 8 to Tokyo, NWA 3970 to Los Angeles

*4 hr 7 min layover in LAX*

**Los Angeles (LAX) to London (LHR)**

Depart: LAX 5/29 @ 12:47 PM  
Arrive: LHR 5/30 @ 7:30 AM  
Flight Time: 10 hr 43 min  
Flight: United 934 (nonstop)

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*Travel Time:* 37 hr 8 min  
*Layover Time:* 5 hr 47 min  
*Total Time:* 42 hr 55 min or 1.788194 days

*Total Cost:* \$7,107.40