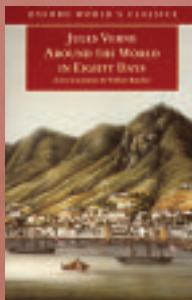


DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS

The following topics could be used to prompt group discussions or could be considered while reading the book.

- Fogg attempts to control time and is likened to an automaton, machine and chronometer. What does he lose by behaving in this way? What, if anything, does he gain?
- What do Fogg, Fix and Cromarty show us about Verne's view of the British character? How are the British contrasted with the Americans? In what ways do the characters in the book rise above national stereotypes?
- How does Verne show his fascination for science and inventions? To what extent is this matched by his interest in people?
- What does the depiction of Aouda tell us about Western attitudes to Eastern women? How does she respond to Fogg's seemingly polite indifference?
- How much do you think Fogg has been changed by his journey? What do you think the future holds for him and Aouda?
- Verne's literary reputation has suffered outside France because he is thought of as a writer for children and of science fiction. How do these labels influence the way we read his books?
- What methods does Verne use to engage the reader in the adventure and to create tension?
- How does Verne make use of the flashback in structuring the story? What effect does this have?
- How is humour used in the book?
- What kind of traveller do you think Verne most admires?



Oxford World's Classics' edition of *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

