



Around the World in 80 Days

By, Danielle Costanzo



Illustration from "The Daring Nelly Bly, America's Star Reporter" by Bonnie Christenson

"I need a vacation, why not take a trip around the world?" -Nellie Bly, *Around the World in 72 Days*

Have you ever wanted to become one of your favorite FICTIONAL (imaginary or invented) characters? Or travel to new and exciting places? Nearly 130 years ago Elizabeth Jane Cochrane, a young NEWSPAPER reporter who wrote under the pen name (an ASSUMED name used by a writer instead of their real name) NELLIE BLY, set out to recreate the epic (heroic or grand in scale or character) adventures of PHILEAS FOGG, the PROTAGONIST (main character) from Jules Verne's book, *Around the World in 80 Days*.

Spell: PROTAGONIST Spell: ASSUMED Spell: FICTIONAL

ELIZABETH JANE COCHRANE's profession was a _____ reporter. NEWSPAPER

What was Elizabeth's pen name? NELLIE BLY

According to the lesson, a protagonist is the _____ of a book: MAIN CHARACTER

What is the name of the protagonist from the book, *Around The World in 80 Days*? PHILEAS FOGG

Question Type Key

KNOWN – SEMI-OPEN – PRIOR KNOWLEDGE – MATH – OPEN – VAKT



What did ELIZABETH JANE COCHRANE set out to do nearly 130 years ago?
RECREATE THE ADVENTURES OF PHILEAS FOGG, GO AROUND THE WORLD,
IMITATE THE PROTAGONIST FROM JULES VERNE’S BOOK, ETC.

Can you think of another book about an epic journey? (E.G. THE HOBBIT, THE
GOLDEN COMPASS, THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA, ETC.)

If you could choose your own pen name, what would it be? (E.G. FLUFFY
NOODLEPUMPER)

If we are currently in the year 2020, and Elizabeth’s trip was approximately 130
years ago, what year would you estimate Elizabeth took her trip? $2020 - 130 =$
1890

As if 80 days wasn’t enough of a challenge—remember, air-travel didn’t exist
yet!—Elizabeth PITCHED (proposed an idea) to her editor, John Cockerill of the
NEW YORK WORLD, a story in which she would complete the same ‘round-the-
world trip as Phileas in just 75 days. Her idea was initially met with SKEPTICISM
(doubt), and it took nearly one year for the newspaper HIGHER-UPS (senior
people of an organization) to support her, but the DETERMINED (set on doing a
particular thing) reporter finally got the go-ahead after she suggested she could
take her story to a RIVAL (competing) newspaper.

Spell: PITCHED

Spell: DETERMINED

Spell: RIVAL

What was the name of the newspaper where Elizabeth worked? NEW YORK
WORLD

According to the lesson, a word that would mean “to express doubt for an idea”
is: SKEPTICISM

How did Elizabeth finally get her story approved? SHE PITCHED IT TO HER EDITOR,
SHE WAS DETERMINED, SHE SUGGESTED SHE COULD TAKE HER STORY TO A RIVAL
NEWSPAPER, ETC.

Can you think of something (like air-travel) that did not exist 130 years ago? (E.G.
COMPUTER, MOBILE PHONE, INTERNET, SPACE SHIPS, LASER SURGERY, ETC.)

How many years did it take for the newspaper higher-ups to approve Elizabeth’s
story idea? (Nearly) 1 YEAR

Elizabeth proposed she could travel around the world in 75 days. This is how
many days less than the fictional character Phileas Fogg? $80 - 75 = 5$ DAYS LESS

Why do you think the higher-ups were skeptical of Elizabeth’s idea? (E.G. SHE
WAS FEMALE, HORSES CAN’T CROSS OCEANS, ETC.)

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Nellie Bly waves goodbye as she departs for her trip around the world

On November 14, 1889 in HOBOKEN, New Jersey Elizabeth Cochrane boarded the STEAMSHIP, AUGUSTA VICTORIA and headed for her first stop: LONDON. With her she took a small 16" X 7" piece of luggage, which included a few changes of underwear, TOILETRIES (personal hygiene items, like soap), writing supplies, a sleeping gown, a blazer, a cup, two caps, a pair of slippers, needles and thread, and some HANKERCHIEFS.

Spell: TOILETRIES Spell: HANKERCHIEFS Spell: STEAMSHIP

What is the name of the steamship Elizabeth boarded to start her journey?

AUGUSTA VICTORIA

What was the steamship's destination? LONDON

Name one or more items Elizabeth brought with her on her trip: A FEW CHANGES OF UNDERWEAR, TOILETRIES, WRITING SUPPLIES, A SLEEPING GOWN, A BLAZER, A CUP, 2 CAPS, 3 VEILS, A PAIR OF SLIPPERS, NEEDLES AND THREAD, SOME HANKERCHIEFS

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Can you name another type of boat? (E.G. SPEED BOAT, CRUISE SHIP, TANKER, ETC.)

What year did Elizabeth Cochrane finally begin her trip around the world? 1989

What were the dimensions (size) of Elizabeth's luggage? Fill in the blanks: 16 inches by 17 inches

What are some things you would pack if you were going on a long trip? (E.G. PANTS, A BOOK, MY PET CHINCHILLA, ETC.)

The VOYAGE (a long journey by sea) from Hoboken to London lasted seven days. When she arrived at her DESTINATION Elizabeth, who was now FAMOUSLY known by her pen name Nellie Bly, was invited to PARIS by the author who had inspired her story: JULES VERNE himself! During their visit in his AMIENS, FRANCE home, Verne told Bly, "If you do [the trip] in seventy-nine days, I shall applaud with both hands."

Spell: VOYAGE

Spell: DESTINATION

Spell: FAMOUSLY

Who was the author that inspired Nellie Bly's story idea? JULES VERNE

Where was Nellie Bly invited after arriving in London? PARIS, AMIENS FRANCE, JULES VERNE'S HOUSE

How many days was the voyage from Hoboken to London? 7 DAYS

Jules Verne told Nellie Bly he would applaud her for completing the trip in how many days? 79 DAYS

Name another famous voyage: (E.G. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' JOURNEY TO AMERICA)

Name another author who uses a pen name: (E.G. LEMONY SNICKET, DR. SEUSS, MARK TWAIN)

Describe someone or something that has inspired you: (E.G. A BOOK, MY MOM, BBC NEWS, ETC.)

On the map pictured below, point to a place where Nellie Bly traveled. ANY OF THE NUMBERED LOCATIONS ARE ACCEPTABLE ANSWERS

Point to a place on the map where YOU would like to travel, then spell that location on the board. ANY LOCATION, INCLUDING WATER/OCEANS, IS AN ACCEPTABLE ANSWER

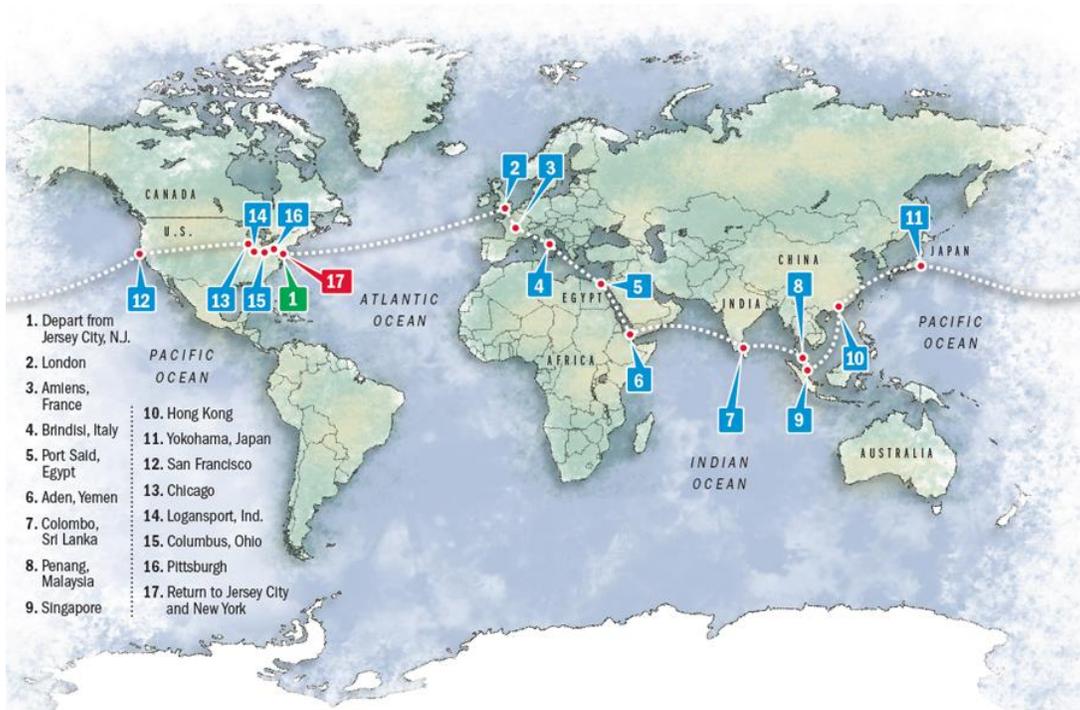
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A map of the actual route taken by Nellie Bly

As she made her way through EUROPE to EGYPT, and across the vast (very great in size) continent of Asia, our HEROINE (a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities) Nellie Bly was not just racing against her own TIMETABLE; she was in an actual race (with someone other than Phileas Fogg). Throughout her entire trip she had been unknowingly competing with ELIZABETH BISLAND, a reporter that had been tasked by COSMOPOLITAN magazine to beat her around the world!

Spell: EUROPE

Spell: TIMETABLE

Spell: EGYPT

According to the text, a word that means “a woman admired or idealized for her courage” is a: HEROINE

What is the name of the reporter Nellie Bly was unknowingly racing? ELIZABETH BISLAND

What magazine tasked Elizabeth Bisland with racing Nellie Bly? COSMOPOLITAN

Name one place Elizabeth (AKA Nellie Bly) traveled while writing her story for *New York World*: EUROPE, EGYPT, ASIA, FRANCE

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Asia is one of the Earth's seven continents. Can you name one of the remaining six? EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICA, ANTARCTICA, AUSTRALIA

Choose one word to describe what you think about Cosmopolitan sending Elizabeth Bisland to race Nellie Bly without her knowledge: (E.G. SNEAKY, MEAN, GREEDY, SMART, CAPITALISTIC, ETC.)

Not only did Nellie Bly circle the globe in less than 79 days, she beat her own personal goal (and rival reporter Elizabeth Bisland). She ACCOMPLISHED her GLOBAL round-trip (a journey to one or more places and back again) in just 72 days, 6 hours, and 11 minutes, setting a world record that made her not just the first woman, but the first person, to ever travel around the world. Jules Verne must have been APPLAUDING (along with the many SUPPORTERS who met her with CHEERS in New Jersey), all the way from France, with both hands.

Spell: ACCOMPLISHED Spell: GLOBAL Spell: APPLAUDING

When she arrived in New Jersey, Nellie Bly was greeted with cheers from many_____. SUPPORTERS

What is another way to say a person traveled "around the world"? CIRCLED THE GLOBE, GLOBAL ROUND-TRIP, ETC.

How many days did it take for Nellie Bly to travel around the world? 72 DAYS

Nellie Bly's travel time was recorded down to the minute. Complete the blanks for her exact recorded time: 72 days, 6 hours, and 11 minutes

In how many days less than her original goal did Nellie Bly complete her trip? $75 - 72 = 3$ DAYS

And in how many days less than the fictional character Phileas Fogg? $80 - 72 = 8$ DAYS LESS

Describe another type of world record: (E.G. LARGEST GUMBALL, TALLEST MAN ALIVE, LONGEST TIME SPENT AWAKE, ETC.)

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New York World article about Nellie Bly's voyage

Creative Writing:

If you could take a trip to any place, real or imagined, where would you go? Describe your itinerary (travel plans) and if you would need to implement (use) any special methods of getting to your destination.

Describe an invention you would create to make a trip around the world in not 72 days, or 72 hours, but 72 minutes.

Sources:

- <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/nellie-blys-record-breaking-trip-around-world-was-to-her-surprise-race>
- <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/52745/nellie-blys-72-day-trip-around-world>

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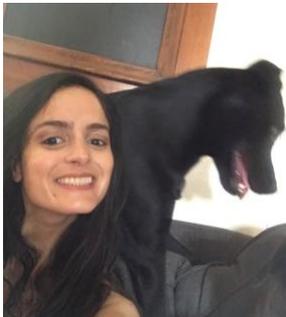




- <https://geekfrontiers.com/pittsburgh-history/nellie-blys-race-around-the-world/>
- <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/elizabeth-cochrane>
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Danielle Costanzo is a practitioner in training who lives and works in (garbage borough city) New York. When she is not busy reflecting on how to improve her board practice, she is catering endlessly to the needs and desires of her very lucky pup, Mr. Fox Mulder.

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