

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-9 The Accidental Tourist
Test Paper-02

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follows:

1. “So I pulled on it and yanked at it, with grunts and frowns and increasing consternation. I kept this up for some minutes but it wouldn’t budge, so I pulled harder and harder, with more grunts. Well, you can guess what happened.”
 - a. What does ‘it’ means in the given extract?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Find out a synonym of dismay from the extract.
 - d. Why was the author pulling it?
2. “I would love, just once in my life, to rise from a dinner table without looking as if I have just experienced an extremely localised seismic event, get in a car and close the door without leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-coloured trousers without discovering at the end of the day that I have at various times sat on chewing gum, ice cream, cough syrup and motor oil. But it is not to be.”
 - a. How authors wife reacts to his mischiefs?
 - b. Was it too hard for author to be polite?
 - c. What is the meaning of ‘seismic event’?
 - d. Was the author being happy with his nature?
3. Bill Bryson says “I am, in short, easily confused.” What examples has he given to justify this?
4. How had the author gashed his finger? What was his wife’s reaction?
5. How does the author amuse the lady in the next seat with a scattering of urbane bons mots?
6. Why was the author ignoring to tie his shoelace while travelling?
7. Why the author never got his frequent flyer miles?
8. What happens when the zip on the author’s carry-on bag gives way?
9. What is the significance of the title- “The Accidental Tourists”. (100 words)
10. Do you think the travelling has become easy? If yes, why does the author aches to travel? (100 words)

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Answers

1.
 - a. 'it' refers to the carry-on bag.
 - b. The zip gave way and side of the bag flew open, everything within were out.
 - c. Consternation.
 - d. He remembers that he had recently joined British Airways' frequent flyer programme, and its card was in his carry-on bag.
2.
 - a. His wife used to say when they travel "Take the lids off the food for Daddy" or "Put your hoods up, children. Daddy's about to cut his meat".
 - b. Yes, he aches to be suave.
 - c. 'Seismic event' is usually, an earthquake.
 - d. No, he wanted to be polite like any other human being.
3. Because, a number of times he has gone looking for the lavatory in a cinema hall, for instance, and ended up standing in an alley on the wrong side of a self-locking door. He has return to hotel desks two or three times a day and asking what his room number was.
4. The author had gashed his finger on the zip, which was jammed and it shedding blood in a lavish manner. His hair went into panic mode. It was at this point that his wife looked with an expression of wonder — not anger or exasperation, and said, "I can't believe you do this for a living."
5. The author was writing important thoughts in a notebook and was sucking thoughtfully on the end of the pen and fell into conversation with an attractive young lady in the next seat. He amused her for perhaps 20 minutes with a scattering of urbane bons mots, then retired to the lavatory and discovered that the pen had leaked and his mouth, chin, tongue, teeth and gums were then a striking, scrub-resistant navy blue.
6. Because, once on an aeroplane, the author leaned over to tie a shoelace just at the moment someone in the seat ahead of him threw his seat back into full recline, and the author found himself pinned helplessly in the crash position.
7. The author never got his frequent flyer miles because he couldn't find the card in time. He used to forget to ask for the air miles when he checked in, or even if he remembered

to ask, then either the airline happened not to record them, or the check-in clerk informed him that he was not entitled to it.

8. The side of the bag flew open and everything within — newspaper cuttings and other loose papers, a 14- ounce tin of pipe tobacco, magazines, passport, English money, film — was extravagantly ejected over an area about the size of a tennis court.
9. The frequent traveler describes in the story is Bill Bryson. He really aches to be suave. So, he makes unwanted mischiefs while his travel. The story describes the accidental nature of Bill. Sometimes his bag's zip gives way and all the things within would be out. Once, he leaned over to tie a shoelace just at the moment someone in the seat ahead of him threw his seat back into full recline, and Bill found himself pinned helplessly in the crash position. In another incident, he knocked a soft drink onto the lap of a sweet little lady. The flight attendant came and cleaned her up, and brought a replacement drink, and instantly he knocked it onto the woman again. He would always get in a car and close the door with leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-coloured trousers without discovering at the end of the day that he has at various times sat on chewing gum, ice cream, cough syrup and motor oil.
10. Yes, technology has made travelling quick, safe and comfortable. Even though there are some people who are uncomfortable with travelling. In the story – “The Accidental Tourists”, the author would make many accidents while travelling. He aches to be suave. He tried to be polite but he couldn't. Sometimes, his bag gives way or he knocks soft drink on the person sitting next to him. He sucks the end of pen without noting that the pen would leak. He never gets in his car without leaving 14-inches of coat outside. When the author goes out looking for the lavatory in a cinema he ends up standing in an alley on the wrong side of a self-locking door. He has a specialty returning to hotel desks two or three times a day and asking what his room number is.