

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**  
**Moments Chapter-9 The Accidental Tourist**  
**Test Paper-05**

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

1. “I just remember reaching out for the new drink and watching helplessly as my arm, like some cheap prop in one of those 1950s horror movies with a name like *The Undead Limb*, violently swept the drink from its perch and onto her lap.”
  - a. Who is ‘her’ in the extract?
  - b. Why does the author say this?
  - c. Why was the author reaching for the new drink?
  - d. Write the name of the lesson and its author?
2. “In January, on a flight to Australia — a flight for which I was going to get about a zillion air miles — the clerk shook her head when I presented my card and told me I was not entitled to any.”
  - a. Who is ‘I’ in the given extract?
  - b. Was he willing to get zillion air miles? If yes, why?
  - c. Why does the clerk say that author was not entitled to any?
  - d. Could he convince the clerk at last?

**Answer the following questions in about 30 words:**

3. What has become a real frustration for the author?
4. Why does the clerk told author that he was not entitled to any?
5. Why did the lady look at author with stupefied expression?
6. Bill Bryson “ached to suave”. Is he successful in his mission?
7. Describe the worst experience for the author while travelling.
8. List some unsuave things of the author.

**Answer the following questions in about 100 words:**

9. As author, write a diary entry express you’re feeling about knocking a soft drink on the lady sitting beside.
10. What are the experience of the author traveled with his family and when he is alone.

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**Answers**

1.
  - a. 'her' refers to the lady sitting beside the author.
  - b. Because, he doesn't know how he had knocked the soft drink twice on to the lady. So, he compared his arm to cheap prop.
  - c. Because he had knocked his soft drink on the lady.
  - d. "The Accidental Tourist" by Bill Bryson.
2.
  - a. 'I' refers to the author, Bill Bryson.
  - b. Yes, because everyone is flying off to Bali first class with their air miles. But he never gets to collect anything.
  - c. Because the ticket is in the name of B. Bryson & the card is in the name of W. Bryson.
  - d. He explained to clerk the close and venerable relationship between Bill and William, but she wouldn't have it. So, he couldn't get his air miles.
3. The author never did get his frequent flyer miles. He never does. He couldn't find the card in time. This has become a real frustration for him. Everyone is forever flying off to Bali first class with their air miles. But he never gets to collect anything. He must fly 100,000 miles a year, yet he has accumulated only about 212 air miles divided between twenty-three airlines.
4. The ticket is in the name of B. Bryson and the card is in the name of W. Bryson. The author explained to her the close and venerable relationship between Bill and William, but she wouldn't have it. So, he didn't get my air miles.
5. The lady looked at the author with the stupefied expression as she has been repeatedly drenched by the author with his soft drink and uttered an oath that started with "Oh", finished with "sake" and in between had some words that I have never heard uttered in public before.
6. No, he never managed to be suave. He would love to rise from a dinner table without looking as if he has experienced an extremely localised seismic event, get in a car and close the door without leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-colored 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. But it is not to be so.

7. The worst experience was when the author was writing thoughts in a notebook, sucking thoughtfully on the end of his pen and fell into conversation with a lady. He amused her for perhaps 20 minutes with a scattering of urbane bons mots, then he retired to the lavatory and there he discovered that the pen has leaked and his mouth, chin, tongue, teeth and gums were then a striking, scrub-resistant navy blue, and would remain so for several days.
8. The author would love to rise from a dinner table without looking as if he has experienced an extremely localised seismic event, get in a car and close the door without leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-colored 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. But it is not to be.

9. 27 March, 10pm

20x

Dear diary,

Today on my travel, I knocked a soft drink onto the lap of a sweet little lady sitting beside me. The flight attendant came and cleaned her up, and brought me a replacement drink, & instantly I knocked it onto the woman again. I don't know how I did it. I just remember reaching out for the new drink and watching helplessly as my arm, like some cheap prop in one of those 1950s horror movies with a name like The Undead Limb, violently swept the drink from its perch and onto her lap. The lady looked at me with the stupefied expression you would expect to receive from someone whom you have repeatedly drenched and uttered an oath that started with "Oh", finished with "sake" and in between had some words that I have never heard uttered in public before, certainly not by a nun. I would like to be suave but I couldn't. I want to get zillion air miles like everyone I know. Hope that any day I would success in my travels.

Bill Bryson.

10. On planes when the food is delivered, the author's wife says: "Take the lids off the food for Daddy" or "Put your hoods up, children. Daddy's about to cut his meat". Because she knows that her husband could do some kind of mischief. So, she asks her to do the common chores for the author. This is only when he is flying with his family. When he is alone, he doesn't eat, drink or lean over to tie his shoelaces, and never put a pen anywhere near his mouth. He just sits very, very quietly, sometimes on his hands to keep them from flying out unexpectedly and causing liquid mischief.