

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-9 The Accidental Tourist
Test Paper-03

Read the given extract and answer the questions that follows:

1. “It was at this point that my wife looked at me with an expression of wonder — not anger or exasperation, but just simple wonder — and said, “I can’t believe you do this for a living.”
 - a. About which point is the author saying about?
 - b. What had the author done?
 - c. What is the meaning of ‘exasperation’?
 - d. Why authors wife used to say, “I can’t believe you do this for a living.”?
2. “I also remembered that I had put the card in the carry-on bag that was hanging around my neck. And here’s where the trouble started.”
 - a. Which card is the author referring to?
 - b. What problem had taken place?
 - c. What is the airways he joined?
 - d. What happened to his carry-on bag?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. Why does the zip of the carry-on bag give way?
4. Why do you think Bill Bryson’s wife says to the children, “Take the lids off the food for Daddy”?
5. Why does the author ache to suave?
6. What does the author do when he travels alone?
7. “I must fly 100,000 miles a year, yet I have accumulated only about 212 air miles divided between twenty-three airlines.” What is the reason?
8. How can you say that the author gets easily confused?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Imagine you are author, write a letter to your friend describing your England trip.
10. Do you think the author has accidental nature? Give reasons.

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Answers

1.
 - a. The author gashed his finger and his hair went into a panic mode.
 - b. The author had open the carry-on bag and its side flew open and everything within were ejected.
 - c. 'Exasperation' means irritation.
 - d. His wife looked at him with an expression of simple wonder, and said, "I can't believe you do this for a living."
2.
 - a. The author had joined British Airways' frequent flyer programme. So, he is talking about that card.
 - b. The zip of the bag was jammed so, the author opened it with grunts and frowns, the zip gave way and everything within were out.
 - c. The author had joined British Airways.
 - d. The carry-on bags zip jammed.
3. The zip on the bag was jammed. So, the author pulled on it and yanked at it, with grunts and frowns and increasing consternation. He kept doing this for some minutes but it wouldn't budge, so he pulled harder and harder, with more grunts. Abruptly the zip gave way.
4. Because, she is sure about the author's accidental nature. She guesses that he could do some mischief so in order to prevent this she said to her children to help their father.
5. He wants to be like others but he can't. He would love to rise from a dinner table without looking as if he has just experienced an extremely localised seismic event. He always gets in a car and close the door with leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-colored trousers without discovering that he had sat on chewing gum, ice cream, cough syrup and motor oil.
6. When the author 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 quietly, sometimes on his hands to keep them from flying out unexpectedly and causing liquid mischief.
7. This is because either he forgets to ask for the air miles when he check in, or if he

remember to ask for them then the airline manages not to record them, or the check-in clerk informs him that he is not entitled to them.

8. The author has a number of times gone looking for the lavatory in a cinema, for instance, and ended up standing in an alley on the wrong side of a self-locking door. His usually returns to hotel desks two or three times a day and ask what his room number is.

9. #105, Curzon street

England

26 May, 20**

#305, Uphill street,

Boston

Dear friend,

I am fine, Hope that you are keeping fine there, I went en famille on a big trip. It was at Easter. We were flying to England for a week. You know how accidental nature I am. I was taking the card of British Airways' frequent flyer programme which was in my carry-on bag. The zip was jammed, so I opened it with grunts and frowns. I kept this up for some minutes. I pulled harder and harder, with more grunts. Well, you can guess what happened. Abruptly the zip gave way. The side of the bag flew open and everything were ejected. I watched dumbstruck as a hundred carefully sorted documents came raining down and the now-lidless tin of tobacco rolled crazily. I cried in horror, thinking what I would have to pay for that much tobacco in England now that another Budget had come and gone, and then changed the cry as I discovered that I had gashed my finger on the zip and was shedding blood in a lavish manner. My hair went into panic mode.

Well, but I enjoyed the trip with my family. I am really tired up of my nature. Hope to see you soon after my trip.

Your lovingly

Bill Bryson.

10. Yes, the author is really accidental natured. He is really unaware of what he does. Once, his bag's zip gave way and everything within were ejected. 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 the author was in crash position. It was cle only by clawing the leg of the man sitting next that he managed to get freed. On another occasion, he knocked a soft drink onto the lap of a lady sitting beside him. The flight attendant came attended her up, and brought him a replacement drink, and instantly he knocked it onto the woman again.

Once, while writing he was sucking thoughtfully on the end of the pen and fell into conversation with an attractive young lady in the next seat. Then retired to the lavatory where he discovered that the pen had leaked and that his mouth, chin, tongue, teeth and gums were now a striking, scrub-resistant navy blue. He would never get into car without leaving 14- inches of coat outside. He always ends up sitting on chewing gum, ice cream, cough syrup and motor oil with light-colored trousers unknowingly.