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p.177 es 1

1) The speaker is an emigrant;

2) He compares emigration to anti-gravitation, saying that the resentments migrants engender have something to do with their conquest of the force of gravity;

3) He compares gravity with belonging;

4) He thinks roots are a conservative myth, designed to keep people in their places;

5) To fly and to flee;

6) He supposes scientists come up with an anti-gravity pill;

7) The world’s airlines would go broke overnight, pill-poppers would come unstuck from the ground and float upwards until they sank into the clouds;

8) It would be necessary to devise special water-proof flying garments;

9) “You see the connection between gravity and “roots”: the pill would make migrants of us all” (lines 29-30)

10) The best thing about migrant people is their hopefulness. The worst thing is the “few meaning-drained mementoes” they carry with them like empty luggage.

p.178 es 2

The speaker experiences the double condition of being an emigrant from India and a newcomer in England and Pakistan.

p.178 es 3

The text is built on the following metaphor: gravity and belonging are compared, as well as emigration and anti-gravitation.

p.178 es 4

Gravity and belonging exist, but neither are understood, even though people perceive the effects of both. People speak about roots to explain why they become attached to their birthplace. Rushdie says he thinks they are a conservative myth, “designed to keep us in our places”.

p.178 es 5

The speaker plays with the word “flight” since it refers to both “to fly” and “to flee”. These words share the meanings of escape and desire for freedom.

p.178 es 6

The narrator conveys a world where people could travel around the world flying, thanks to the invention of a pill. He imagines the existence of different pills to take according to the length of the journey one wants to make. He also imagines a market of special garments and some kind of directional booster-engine. The description seems humorous.

p.178 es 7

The narrator seems to be in favour of migration, especially when he shows appreciation for the hopefulness of migrant people.

p.178 es 8

Learn a few basic words and expressions of the language. Be respectful of local culture and learn what behaviours are considered rude or polite.

p.178 es 9

Chatwin believes that all our activities are linked to “the idea of journeys”. He says that he likes to think that we dispose of an information system which gives us directions for the road. He believes that is the source of people’s unrest. Chatwin tells about how men discovered they could overflow all the information stocked away in their brains in one go by interfering with the chemistry of the brain: one can have an illusory journey. In the past, men identified the divine with vine, drugs or hallucinogenic substances. However, Chatwin states that “drugs are vehicles for people who have forgotten how to walk” meaning that real journeys are more effective and instructive.

p.179 es 1

1) Taxes levied by a government on imported goods: custom duties

2) Basic material from which a product is made: raw materials

3) To move goods illegally into or out a country: smuggling

4) A form of corruption, an act implying money or gift-giving that alters the behaviour of the recipient: bribery

5) A way of criticising a person, an idea or an institution through humour: satire

6) A meeting place which was popular in the Augustan age: coffeehouse

7) The ability to think about things in a practical way and make sensible decisions: common sense

8) Standards or principles of good behaviour: morals

9) Evil or immoral behaviour: vice

10) Behaviour or attitude that shows high moral standards: virtue

p.179 es 2

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Noun | Adjective |
| stability | stable |
| tradition | traditionalist |
| elegance | elegant |
| wit | witty |
| materialist/material | materialistic |
| response | responsive |
| hierarchy | hierarchical |
| heredity | hereditary |
| privilege | privileged |
| individualism | individualistic |
| pessimism | pessimistic |
| optimism | optimistic |

p.179 es 3

The Whigs were formed in 1660-85 with Charles II; descendants of the Parliamentarians; supported by the wealthy and commercial classes; fought for industrial and commercial development, a vigorous foreign policy, religious toleration; became the Liberal Party in the 1860s.

The Tories emerged in 1679-80; descendants of the Royalists; supported by the Church of England and landowners; fought for the divine right of the monarch; became the Conservative Party in 1832.

p.179 es 4

The prime minister is the leading minister of the Cabinet. His affirmation goes back to the time when certain ministers began to lead the others, even though at first, they were all equal in the Cabinet.

After the Whigs started to meet without the king, their meetings developed into a kind of government by Cabinet.

p.179 es 5

1) Walpole was a Tory landowner. F Walpole was a Whig landowner.

2) During Walpole’s government taxes were kept down. T

3) Walpole was accused of corruption by the opposition. T

4) Walpole’s government ended when George II came to the throne. F George II relied on Walpole.

5) Walpole went to live at 10 Downing Street. T

6) William Pitt was a Tory. F He was a Whig.

7) England expanded during Pitt’s government. T

p.179 es 6

1) It was a materialistic society.

2) Its political institutions were hierarchical and hereditary.

3) Elections were largely controlled by the local landowners.

4) Politicians often practised bribery either with money or with the promise of jobs.

5) Eighteenth-century society championed individualism.