

Murder on the Orient Express Webquest

Introduction

In this Web quest, you will be gathering facts about the legendary Orient Express.

You will be asked to find information about the train, its route, and the journey once aboard.

You will also learn and provide information about Agatha Christie, her detective Hercule Poirot and her famous novel, *Murder on the Orient Express* that is based on this historical train.

You will be working alone to search the web by visiting the web sites that are in each section of the quest. Read all of the information on each page – if there is a web link, click on it to find the answers to the questions I have asked. Please write all of your answers on the document I have given you and turn it in when you are finished!



Bon voyage! Have a Great Journey!

The Legendary Train



What do you know about the Orient Express?

The map on the left shows some of the places the Orient Express traveled!

In 1883, the first train started running from Paris to Giurgiu passing through cities like Strasbourg, Munich, Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest.

The Stars on the map indicate where our characters first boarded the Stamboul Calais Coach, in Istanbul – this is where Poirot, Debenham and Arbuthnot first met. It also shows the town of Belgrade where they stopped to pick up the additional passenger car.



Orient-Express restaurant car in 1883



Orient Express Snowed in

Above are some actual photos of the Orient Express, including the small one on the right which shows the Orient Express being snowed in on the tracks.



TASK 1

Use the web link below to find out what happened with the Orient Express on these dates – for each date write the **First Word** of the event. So, if it says “The Orient Express was decommissioned,” you would only write **The...**use your answer document to write your answers.

DATES EVENTS

1889.....
1891.....
1919.....
1929.....
1930s.....
1962.....
1977.....
1982.....
2001.....
2007.....

<http://www.seat61.com/OrientExpress.htm>

When you get to this web page, spend some time reading about the train - you will need to scroll to the bottom and read the timeline or chronological order of events. Remember, only write the first word for each date!



Bonvoyage

*Are you intrigued by the glamorous train? How about taking a ride from **London** to **Venice**?*

http://www.orient-express.com/web/vsoe/venice_simplon_orient_express.jsp



After getting to the website go to the **departures and Prices option** – When the map comes up, use the two drop down menus at the bottom of the map to choose your route. Remember, you are leaving (departing) from London – you are going to (destination) Venice. You will be gone for 2 days. When you read about the trip, click on the word *more* to find all of the information you need. On your answer sheet, answer the questions below.

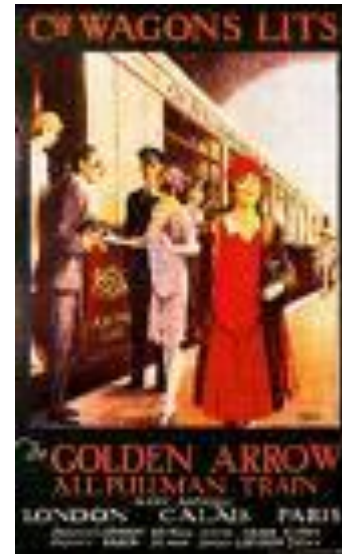


TASK 2

1. *How much (in US dollars) is a ticket from London to Venice?*
2. *According to the map, which towns (stations) will you stop at?*

Murder on the Orient Express

Do you like detective stories? *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie (1934) is a famous novel which was made into a movie in 1974.



TASK 3

To find out more about the murder and Agatha Christie's mysterious world follow Hercule Poirot through **Part 2, chapter 4-6** – now, in the space provided on your answer sheet, write your own summary of what happened in these chapters.

<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/orientexpress>



More About the Author



<http://www.agathachristie.com/>

<http://christie.mysterynet.com/>

TASK 4

Answer the following questions about Agatha Christie

1. When was Agatha Christie born?
2. What was the first book she had published?.....
3. When was the last book with her **principal character** published?
4. What is the **first name** of her **first novel's** hero?
5. What is her nickname?
6. In how many languages are her books sold?
7. What did she do during WWI?.....
8. What was the name of the **first film** based on one of her books?
9. How many detective novels did she write?
10. When did she die?.....

Thanks for traveling...I hope
you enjoyed your journey - Be
sure to give your answer sheet
to the Conductor (that would be
your teacher)!

