



Notes From A Small Island

Reading - SB p. 19

1. Look at the map of south-west England. It is approximately 70 kilometres from Exeter to Plymouth. Write down at least three types of public transport you think are best for a trip like this.



2. Bill Bryson is an American travel writer. Read the extract on p. 19 and answer the question.

- What types of transport does the writer mention?

3. Read the text again and choose the best options.

1 The writer decided to catch a train to Barnstaple because . . .

- a) he didn't want to wait for a long time at the station.
- b) he really wanted to visit Barnstaple.
- c) it was the only possible place to go from Exeter.

2 The man at the ticket office . . .

- a) didn't want to give the writer a cheap fare.
- b) didn't want to explain why the return fare was cheaper.
- c) didn't know why the return fare was cheaper.

3 The writer suggests that British people . . .

- a) need to confirm many times that they are catching the right train.
- b) usually get on the wrong train.
- c) always leave their bags and other things on trains.

4 The two women at the bus station . . .

- a) didn't give the writer any information.
- b) seemed surprised about where the writer wanted to go.
- c) didn't know if there were any buses to mine head.

5 In the end, the writer, . . .

- a) decided to stay the night at a hotel.
- b) didn't get to where he wanted to be.
- c) decided to go back to Exeter after a long meal at a hotel.

Vocabulary

Explain the following words from in English or give their synonyms.

1 to collect luggage –

2 announcement –

3 for the benefit of someone –

4 ritual –

5 conductor –

6 public transport –



CRITICAL THINKING

Do you prefer to travel by train, bus, or car? Explain your opinion.

Are there any unusual customs for using public transport in our country?

