

A Strange Journey

It was a warm, (0) SUNNY October morning in 1593 and in front of the palace in Mexico City there were the usual bustling crowds of people moving (1) _____ across the plaza. One soldier stood out from the rest. Unlike the (2) _____ grey uniform of the other palace guards, his was bright and (3) _____ and he carried a different kind of gun. The strange soldier said that his orders were to guard the Philippine governor's palace in Manila. '(4) _____, I am not in Manila,' he said, 'but this is a palace so I am doing my duty.' By now, officers were (5) _____ of the man and his amazing tale of an overnight journey from Manila to Mexico City. And when he told them that the governor of Manila had been killed the night before, he was arrested.

(6) _____ afterwards, a ship arrived from the Philippines, bringing news that the governor had been murdered – on the night before the soldier had appeared. The soldier was (7) _____ released and sent back to Manila. To this day his (8) _____ voyage through time and space remains unexplained.

SUN
NOISE
TRADITION
COLOUR
EVIDENCE
SUSPICION
SHORT
EVENTUAL
MYSTERY

Monorails

Monorail systems are (0) FREQUENTLY associated with airports, zoos and amusement parks. They can, however, also be integrated into a city's main transport infrastructure and in recent decades a (1) _____ number have been built around the world for this purpose. In particular, there are (2) _____ examples in Asia, with Japan leading the way. Elsewhere, Sydney, Moscow and Sao Paolo all have modern monorails. Perhaps the most (3) _____ system in operation was also one of the first to be built: the 'Schwebobahn' in Wuppertal, Germany, whose trains are suspended from its track, was opened in 1901. Monorails run over short (4) _____, providing a quick and efficient method of urban transport. Supporters point to their (5) _____ safety record and the fact that, because they are electrically powered, they have an (6) _____ advantage over other more polluting forms of city transport. They are also (7) _____ to operate. However, among the objections to monorail systems are the high costs of construction and the unpleasant (8) _____ of the elevated tracks.

FREQUENT
SIGNIFY
NUMBER
USUAL
DISTANT
IMPRESS
ENVIRONMEN
EXPENSE
APPEAR