

ESCUELA CRISTIANA DE LA PALMA

STUDENT: _____ GRADE: 9th

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Getting around New York

In London, it's called the underground; in Washington, D.C., it's called the metro; and in New York, it's called the subway. In the 1970s, the New York subway was a dangerous place, especially at night. There were a lot of "muggings"—thieves stole from passengers and often injured them. Now the subway is much safer, and we can thank one man for that.

The man's name is Curtis Sliwa. He decided to try to stop crime on the subway. So at 3 a.m. on February 13, 1979, Curtis and twelve friends got on a train on the Number 4 subway line—the "Mugger's Express." They weren't police officers, and they didn't have guns, but they stopped crime. People called the group the "Magnificent 13." Soon there were hundreds of people in the group, and they changed their name to the Guardian Angels. Now everyone recognizes their red berets and white T-shirts, and there are Guardian Angels all over the U.S.

The subway is the quickest way to travel in New York, and the cost of a ticket is the same no matter how far you go. And you can go a long way! The subway is 1,142 kilometers long in total and has 469 stations. There are two types of subway train: local trains that stop at every station, and express trains that only stop at some stations. Most subway lines are open 24 hours a day, although there are fewer trains at night and on the weekend. But even though there are now Guardian Angels, it is not a good idea to travel on the subway alone after midnight.



3 READING

Read *Getting around New York* and decide: true or false? Correct the false statements.

- 1 Curtis Sliwa was a thief on the Number 4 subway line.

- 2 Guardian Angels are part of the New York police.

- 3 Guardian Angels wear white T-shirts and don't carry guns.

- 4 You only find Guardian Angels in New York.

- 5 It costs the same to travel 1 km or 100 km on the subway.

- 6 All subway lines are open all the time.

- 7 There are more trains on the weekend.

- 8 The subway is safe for people to travel on alone at night.

4 VOCABULARY

Read the text again and match these words with their definitions.

beret • crime • fewer • guardian • injured
magnificent • mugger • subway • types

- 1 bad activities, like stealing _____
- 2 kinds _____
- 3 railroad under a city _____
- 4 thief who often hurts people _____
- 5 opposite of *more* _____
- 6 hurt _____
- 7 round flat hat _____
- 8 someone who takes care of people _____
- 9 wonderful _____

