

Back to the Future, Chapter 2: Doc's Experiment

Vocabulary

Without using the textbook, look at the following lines with a partner. Can you remember who said them? If you can't remember, try to guess. What were they talking about?

- a) Good. Have a good trip, Einstein. **Watch your head.** (p. 44)
- b) You got that thing **hooked up to** the... car? (p. 44)
- c) **The way I see it**, if you're gonna build a time machine into a car, why not do it with some style. (p. 46)
- d) He **skipped over** that minute to instantly arrive at this moment in time. (p. 46)
- e) It requires something with a little more **kick.** (p. 50)
- f) This sucker's electrical, but I need a nuclear reaction to **generate** the one point twenty-two gigawatts of electricity I need. (p. 50)
- g) I'm **allergic to** all synthetics. (p. 50)
- h) Seeing the **progress** of mankind. (p. 52)
- i) I, Dr. Emmet Brown, am about to embark on an **historic** journey. (p. 52)

Complete the following sentences with the underlined words or phrases from above. Change the form of the words, or replace portions so that they work well (do → did, me → him, etc.)

1. We don't serve peanuts during flights anymore because some people are _____ them.
2. I _____ these question because I couldn't understand them.
3. You should drink that espresso slowly—it's got quite a _____ .
4. The ceiling is rather low, so you had better _____ .
5. The advertising campaign _____ a lot of business for the company.
6. He is making great _____ in English and now can communicate quite fluently.
7. I need a cable to _____ my iPod _____ the speakers?
8. The 16th century cathedral is of great _____ and architectural interest.
9. _____, kids under 12 should not play violent video games.

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Content

1. What kind of machine has Doc invented? Why does he think it's stylish?
2. Who was used to test Doc's new creation? Where was he sent?
3. At what speed does the car need to go in order to travel in time?
4. What special dates and events did Doc enter into the time machine?
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5. What two items did Doc almost forget to take with him? Why did he need them?
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6. Where is Doc planning to go? Why?
7. Why do the Libyan terrorists shoot Doc?
8. How does Marty escape from the terrorists?

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Discussion

1. In this chapter, we are introduced to Doc. List a few adjectives to describe him.
2. Do you think time travel will be possible in the future? What do you think may be possible in the future that cannot be done now?
3. Doc invented a time machine. If you could use his machine, where would you go?
4. List the pros and cons of time travel.
5. What are some of the greatest inventions of all time?
6. Doc is allergic to synthetics. Do you have any allergies?

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Vocabulary (Answers)

1. We don't serve peanuts during flights anymore because some people are allergic to them.
2. I skipped over these question because I couldn't understand them.
3. You should drink that espresso slowly—it's got quite a kick.
4. The ceiling is rather low, so you had better watch your head.
5. The advertising campaign generated a lot of business for the company.
6. He is making great progress in English and now can communicate quite fluently.
7. I need a cable to hook up my iPod to the speakers?
8. The 16th century cathedral is of great historic and architectural interest.
9. The way I see it, kids under 12 should not play violent video games.

Content (Answers)

1. A time machine / It's in the form of a DeLorean DMC-12 sports car.
2. Einstein, Doc's pet dog. / One minute into the future.
3. Eighty-eight miles per hour
4.
 - July 4th 1776 — The signing of the Declaration of Independence
 - December 25th 0000 — The birth of Christ
 - November 5th 1955 — The day Doc invented time travel.
5.
 - His luggage—he needs cotton underwear because he's allergic to synthetics
 - The plutonium — to get back.
6. He's planning to go 25 years into the future—he wants to see the progress of mankind and who wins the next twenty-five World Series.
7. He promised to make a bomb for them, but stole their plutonium for his time machine.
8. He used Doc's time machine.