

## Reading

### 11 Traveling at the speed of light!

- 1 Read the magazine article and mark Tom's journey on the map. How many stops did he make?
- 2 Answer the questions.
  1. How long is the trip that Tom is going to take?
  2. Why doesn't he want to go?
  3. How much did the ticket cost?
  4. Where does he want to eat toast and jam?
  5. Which parts of the journey can't he remember?
  6. Which places does he want to come back to?

# Traveling at the speed of light!

Travel writer Tom Bradley loses sleep on the ultimate trip—  
an 11-day, 29,000-mile journey around the world



I'm getting on the plane at Heathrow Airport, when I realize that I don't want to go on this journey. I already feel tired just thinking about it. But if I don't go now, I'll waste over \$2,000 on my around-the-world ticket—so I get on the plane.

5,500 miles and eight time zones later, I get off the plane in L.A. It is late afternoon, but my body clock is telling me that it is 5 A.M. When I get to the hotel, all I'll want to eat is toast and jam, not dinner. But if I don't eat now, I'll feel hungry in the middle of the L.A. night.

Next morning I wake up, and try to eat breakfast. Then I go on a quick tour of Hollywood, before I catch my next plane. Another 5,500 miles later, and another four time zones later, I get off the plane in Fiji. I am exhausted, but this is paradise. When I have a proper vacation next year, I'll come back here. I go to the hotel and lie under a palm tree. But all too soon, I'm back at the airport.

Another 1,341 miles and an international dateline later, we arrive in Auckland, New Zealand. Next I'm in Australia, flying from Sydney to Fremantle. Unfortunately, I don't

have a clear memory of New Zealand or Australia, except for sheep, a seaplane, whales, and a waterside restaurant. I am just too tired.

I wake up 1,603 miles from Fremantle, and I'm in Bali in the Pacific Ocean. I have never felt so awake before! Bali is beautiful, and I really enjoy my day here. If I ever get married, I'll come back here on my honeymoon.

1,040 miles later, I'm in Singapore. How did I get here?

Then I'm flying home, still wishing I was back in Bali. As soon as I get home, I know I'll start feeling bored!