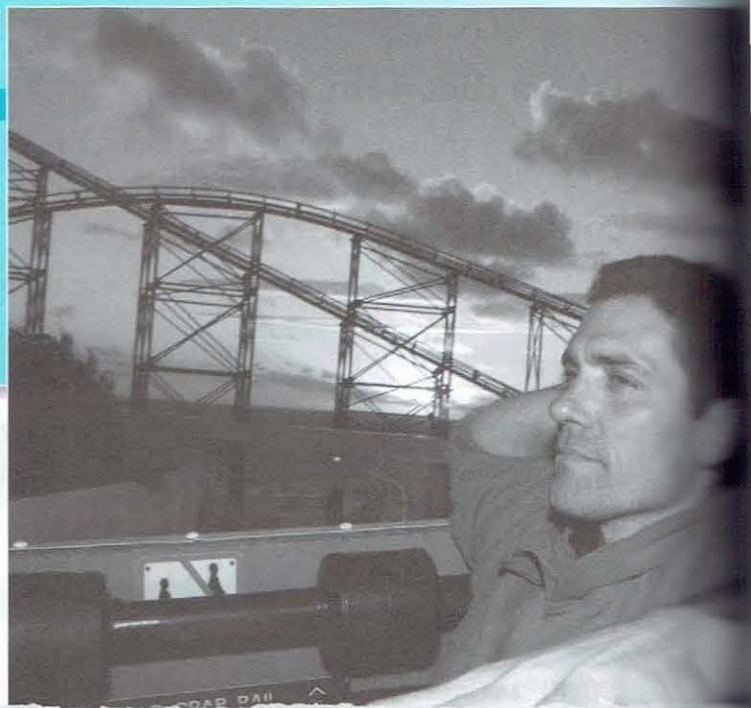


A Wild Ride



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

HASSLOCH, GERMANY ¹For 192 hours in 2003, Richard Rodriguez **went around** and around, up and down. His heart was often in his throat*. ²When he finished the **wild** roller coaster** **ride**, this English teacher from Chicago was tired and **confused**, but **really** happy. It was the longest roller coaster ride **ever**!

³Rodriguez slept while he rode the German roller coaster. The **seats** in his little car were very soft, but it was not easy. The first night he slept

only an hour. "Your body learns to sleep after a **few** days," explained Rodriguez. ⁴His car also had a little **toilet**. ⁵Every eight hours, he stopped for a short 15-minute **rest**. ⁶The biggest problem was the hot August sun. Rodriguez had a lot of **water** with him. He drank most of it and put **the rest** on his head.

* his heart was in his throat: he felt afraid

** roller coaster: an exciting train in an amusement park

NEW WORDS

go around *v*
wild *adj*

ride *n*
confused *adj*

really *adv*
ever *adv*

seat *n*
a few *det*

toilet *n*
rest *n*

the rest *n*

>> See Glossary on page 94. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.

Not at All A Lot

1
 2
 3
 4
 5

3. Check your comprehension

Correct five mistakes in the story summary.

Rodriguez went around and around on a roller coaster for 92 hours. When he finished the wild ride, he was confused and really sad. It was not hard for him to sleep while he rode. Every two hours, he stopped for a rest. The biggest problem was the rain.

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Rodriguez's ride was rea__ __ long and very wi__.
- After he went ar__ __ for 192 hours, he got very con__.
- His roller coaster car had soft s__ _s and a to__.
- Rodriguez put the r__ _ of his water on his head.

5. Listen to the story track 28

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- How did Rodriguez feel when he finished his 192-hour ride?
- What was unusual about his roller coaster car?
- What was his biggest problem during the ride?
- What does Rodriguez do when he isn't riding roller coasters?

About you...

- What question would you like to ask Rodriguez?
- Do you like wild roller coasters? Why or why not?
- What is the longest ride you ever had in a car, bus, train, or plane?
- When do you feel confused? Tired? Happy?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

A REST		
stop for take have need	a rest	Rodriguez stopped for a rest. <i>Ya-ping likes to take a rest after school.</i> <i>I usually have a rest before dinner.</i> <i>Do you need a rest?</i>
a 10- (15-, 20-, 30-) minute a long/short	rest	<i>Rodriguez stopped for a 15-minute rest.</i> <i>Sumio took a long rest yesterday.</i>

- Last weekend, I took _____ rest.
- I often _____ a rest after _____.
- I'll have _____ rest _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true. Use words from the pictures.

DIRECTIONS



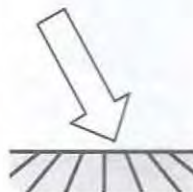
go around



go through



go under



go down



go up



go over

- Some roller coasters _____ water, and you get wet.
- When you fly from Asia to California, you _____ the Pacific.
- To get to the 91st floor of Taipei 101, you _____ in the elevator.
- When you are on the river Thames, you _____ London Bridge.

10. Take a dictation track 29

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 87.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

confused ride ever a few wild around went up seats

Wig Stops Roller Coaster

NEW YORK CITY, USA People were having fun on a (1) _____ New York City roller coaster in 2004 when it suddenly stopped—23 meters up in the air! For 30 minutes, the riders sat in their (2) _____ and waited. They were (3) _____. “Why are workers climbing over the tracks*?” they asked.

“We’re looking for the problem!” a worker cried. And they were surprised when they found it. A woman’s dark brown wig** was in the wheels*** of the roller coaster. After they got the wig out, (4) _____ workers pushed the cars down the hill. The (5) _____ began again. The cars (6) _____ and down, over and (7) _____. There were no more problems.



Where did the wig come from? “We won’t (8) _____ know,” said a worker. “It flew off a woman’s head and onto the tracks—maybe from the ride before.”

*tracks: metal lines that a train runs on

**wig: hair that people wear that is not their own

***wheels: things like circles that turn around and around to move something



Talk about the stories

Which story is more surprising? Which one did you like better? Why?