# Lesson 72: The record-holder

The record-holder

Did the boy go where he wanted to?

Children who play truant from school are unimaginative.

A quiet day's fishing, or eight hours in a cinema seeing the same film over and over again, is usually as far as they get.

They have all been put to shame by a boy who, while playing truant, traveled 1,600 miles.

He hitchhiked to Dover and, towards evening, went into a boat to find somewhere to sleep.

When he woke up the next morning, he discovered that the boat had, in the meantime, travelled to Calais.

No one noticed the boy as he crept off.

From there, he hitchhiked to Paris in a lorry.

The driver gave him a few biscuits and a cup of coffee and left him just outside the city.

The next car the boy stopped did not take him into the center of Paris as he hoped it would but to Perpignan on the French-Spanish border.

There he was picked up by a policeman and sent back to England by the local authorities.

He has surely set up a record for the thousands of children who dream of evading school.

A boy who played truant traveled 1,600 miles.

He hitchhiked to Dover, where he slept in a boat, only to find himself in Calais the next morning.

A lorry driver gave him a lift and something to eat, and the boy got off near Paris.

He stopped another car, but instead of being taken to Paris, he was taken to Perpignan on the French-Spanish border.

After being picked up by a policeman, he was sent home by the local authorities.

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The driver gave him a few biscuits and a cup of coffee before leaving him outside the city.

After making sure that the alarm clock worked, I set it so that it would ring at six o'clock.

I hid the Christmas presents under the desk quickly so that my young daughter would not see them when she entered the room.

Refusing the offer, I explained that I had already been offered a job by another company.

He fought the wolves off for three hours before help arrived.

The climbers not only reached the top of the mountain but also spent the night there.

When a fire broke out in a cinema, several hundred people tried to leave the building, and a number of them were injured.

James Sullivan, whose book on the Antarctic was published recently, will give a lecture at the local library next week.

Although the police searched everywhere, neither the missing boy nor his dog could be found.

In spite of the fact that fares have increased, the railway company is still losing money because the employees have demanded higher wages.

He gave me such a fright that I knocked the teapot over.