

Read the following passages and then answer the questions:

1. A businessman who travels all over the world gives a little advice on "wise travelling" saying: I have learned, often the hard way, that there are a few simple rules about how to make life easier both before and after your journey. First of all, always check and double check departure times. It is amazing how few people really do this carefully. Once I arrived at the airport a few minutes after ten. My secretary had got the ticket for me and I thought she had said that the plane left at 10.50. I walked calmly to the departure desk, thinking I still had a little time to spare. The clerk at the desk told me politely but firmly that the departure time was 10.15 and that the flight was, according to international regulations, "now closed". I had to wait three hours for the next one and missed an important meeting.

The second rule is to remember that it is still important to have at least a little of the local currency with you when you arrive in a country. This can be absolutely essential if you are flying to a place few tourists normally visit. A few years ago I was sent to Tulsa, Oklahoma. I flew there from London via Dallas, with very little time to change planes in between. I arrived there at midnight and the bank at the airport was closed. The only way to get to my hotel was by taxi and since I had no dollars, I offered to pay in pounds instead. "listen, buddy, I only take real money" the driver said angrily. Luckily I was able to borrow a few dollars from a clerk at the hotel, but it was very embarrassing.

The third and last rule is to find out as much as you can about the weather at your destination before you leave, especially if you can take only a little luggage with you. I feel sorry for some of my colleagues who travel in heavy suits and raincoats in May, when it is still fairly cool in London or Manchester, to places like Athens, Rome or Madrid, where it is already beginning to be quite warm during the day. Few people understand just how important it is to have the right sort of clothes with you in these days of rapid air travel.

1. Explain why the writer arrived late at the airport?
2. Do you think this was the writer's fault or his secretary's?