City of New Orleans – Arlo Guthrie

Riding on the City of New Orleans,

Illinois Central, ... rail.

.... cars and fifteen restless riders,

three conductors and twenty-five sacks of ....

All .... the southbound Odyssey,

the .... pulls out of Kankakee,

rolling along past houses, ... and ....

Passin' towns that have ....,

freight yards full of old black ....,

and the graveyards of the .... automobiles.

Good morning, America. How are you?

Don't you .... me, I'm your native son.

I'm the train they .... the City of New Orleans

and I'll be .... five hundred miles when the day is done.

Dealing card .... with the old men in the club car

Penny a point, no .... keeping score.

Pass the paper bag, that holds the ....

You can feel the ...., rumbling 'neath the floor.

And the .... of Pullman porters and the sons of engineers

Ride their Father's magic carpet made of ....,

.... sing their babes to sleep

rocking to the .... beat

and the rhythm of the rails is all they ....

Good morning, America ...

Night time on the City of New Orleans,

.... cars in Memphis, Tennessee.

Half way .... and we'll be there by morning,

through the Mississippi .... rolling down to the sea.

But all the .... and people seem

to fade into a bad ....,

the steel rail still ain't heard the ....

The conductor sings his song ....,

the .... will please refrain.

.... train's got the disappearing railroad blues.

Good night, America ...

The **City of New Orleans** is a nightly passenger train. Operated by *Amtrak*, it travels 926 miles between Chicago, Illinois and New Orleans, Louisiana.

Before Amtrak's beginnings in 1971, the train was operated by the **Illinois Central Railroad.**

riding on the train	go by train
Illinois Central	(railroad line)
rail	two iron bars with wooden supports
mail	post
along	with forward motion
southbound	direction south
Odyssey	very long trip
past	following
freight	cargo
graveyard	cemetery
rust	oxydation
native	born in the country
deal cards	distribution of cards
rumble	grumble, sound
beneath	under
magic carpet	flying carpet
rock	swing
gentle	soft, sweet, kind
beat	rhythmic unit
change cars	replace wagon
fade	lose sound or colour
ain't	haven't, isn't etc.
refrain	melody
disappear	pass, go away