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时光之旅
TRAVELLING THROUGH TIME

Caroline Laidlaw（英）著

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DK

A Dorling Kindersley Book
www.dk.com

Original title: **TRAVELLING THROUGH TIME**
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致读者

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丛书的编排也颇具特色，书中图文穿插，彩色印刷，逼真的视觉效果将使您拥有更加美妙的阅读感受。

希望本丛书能令您读得开心！

外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物

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History Lesson

On a fine July afternoon, in a typical London secondary school, a class of students had just finished a history lesson. All of the students had left the classroom except for a boy and a girl, who were talking with their teacher, Mr Johnson. "Sophie," he began, "how long did you spend on your homework last week?"

"About an hour," the girl replied. "Did I get a good mark?"

"No, you didn't. I asked you to write about the most exciting event of the last 2,000 years. But you wrote about the 1966 World Cup!" said Mr Johnson. "Couldn't you think of anything more exciting? You weren't even born in 1966!"

"Well, I didn't have any ideas, so I asked my dad. He watched it on television when he was my age, and he said it was the most exciting thing that he'd ever seen."

"Sir, I couldn't think of anything to write either," Jake admitted. "I'm

历史课

在七月里一个晴朗的下午、伦敦一所普通中学的一个班级里、学生们刚刚上完历史课。所有的同学都已离开了教室、只有一个男孩和一个女孩还在和约翰逊老师交谈。

老师首先说道："苏菲、上个礼拜你花了多长时间来完成你的家庭作业?"

女孩回答道："大概一小时、我做得好吗?"

"不怎么好。"老师说。"我叫你们描述一下过去两千年中最激动人心的事件、而你写的却是1966年世界杯足球赛! 难道过去两千年中就没有更让人激动的事情了吗? 1966年、你还没有出生呢!"

"事情是这样的: 我对这个问题一点概念都没有、于是就去问我爸爸。他在像我这么大的时候看了1966年世界杯的电视转播、而且他认为那是他所见过的最激动人心的事情。"

"老师、我也是什么都想不出来。"杰克承认说。"我没能完成

afraid I didn't do the homework. History's just too boring!"

"I agree," said Sophie. "History is only about dates and facts. It's really boring!"

"But I agree with you as well," said Mr Johnson. "If history was only about dates and facts it would be very boring. But it's about all sorts of people, including teenagers just like you. What is a 'fact' anyway, Sophie?"

"A 'fact' is that England won 4–2 in 1966. My father told me so. That's a real fact."

"But if your father was German, instead of British," said Mr Johnson, "he would remember that Germany lost 4–2. He wouldn't think that match was the most exciting event he'd ever seen. If your father was Hungarian, perhaps he'd say the most exciting football 'fact' was the time Hungary beat the 'unbeatable' English team 6–3 in 1953."

"And if Sophie's dad was Brazilian," interrupted Jake, "he'd tell her that Brazil won the World Cup four times, not just once like England!"

"Well, history wouldn't be boring if it was just about sport," said Sophie.

"Yes, but sport began before the 1966 World Cup, you know," said the history teacher. "Sport has played a part in much bigger historical events."

"Really, Sir? Can you tell us about it?" asked Jake, looking interested.

"Not now," replied Mr Johnson. "It's late. Come back tomorrow, and I'll show you a CD-ROM about history. You might find it rather interesting."

这份作业，历史太烦人了！"

"我同意杰克的说法，"苏菲说。"在历史中只有各种各样的年代和事件，真的很烦人！"

"你们说得不错。"约翰逊老师说。"如果历史当中只有年代和事件的话，那它的确很乏味。但是在历史中也有各种各样的人，也有像你们一样的男孩女孩。先不说这个，苏菲，你认为什么是'事件'呢?"

"在1966年世界杯上英格兰队4比2战胜德国队就是一个'事件'。我爸爸就是这么说的。那是一个确凿无疑的事实。"

"但是如果你父亲是一个德国人而不是英格兰人，"约翰逊老师说，"他只会记得是德国队2比4输给了英格兰。他也不会认为那是他所见过的最令人兴奋的事情。同样的，如果你父亲是匈牙利人，他也许会说匈牙利在1953年6比3战胜'不可战胜'的英格兰的那场比赛才是最激动人心的'事件'。"

"如果苏菲的爸爸是一个巴西人，"杰克插嘴说，"他还会夸耀巴西队获得了四次世界杯冠军，不像英格兰只有一次！"

"要是历史只是与体育运动有关的话，就不会那么没意思了。"苏菲说。

"是的。但是你知道1966年世界杯之前运动就已经产生了，"老师说，"体育在许多更为重大的历史事件中也占有一席之地。"

"真的吗? 老师? 你能跟我们说说吗?"杰克问道。看来他对此很有兴趣。

"现在不行，太晚了。"约翰逊老师说。"明天我会给你们看一个有关历史的多媒体光盘，那将是非常有趣的。"

Ancient Rome

The next day, Sophie and Jake went to see Mr Johnson.

"I've got the CD-ROM I told you about," he said. "It's from a computer company. They want to know if my students like it. First, do you remember what we were talking about yesterday, Sophie?"

"Sport before 1966! We were talking about sport and the exciting events of the last 2,000 years."

"That's right. Now, here's a question for you: if you were alive in Europe 2,000 years ago, which city would be the most exciting place to live in?"

"London, of course," answered Jake without hesitation.

"Really? 2,000 years ago London was just a collection of huts beside a muddy river. I think Rome was much more interesting. People used to say 'all roads lead to Rome' because it was the capital city of a vast empire. It contained most of Europe, North Africa and a lot of the Middle East. Eventually, it even contained Britain."

"What about sport?" asked Jake. He was getting impatient. "What sport did they have in Rome?"

"Just a minute – we're coming to that," said Mr Johnson.

He switched on the computer, put in the CD-ROM, and started the program. There was a click and a whirring noise. The screen lit up while some coloured letters spelled out "WHIRLIGIG". Then a creature with bug eyes appeared. "I'm Whirligig," said a squeaky voice. "I can move backwards and forwards through time. Just type in your favourite subject."

古罗马时代

第二天，苏菲和杰克去找约翰逊老师。

"我已经从一个计算机公司得到了昨天跟你们说起过的多媒体光盘，"老师说，"这家公司想知道学生们喜不喜欢这个东西。苏菲，你还记得昨天我们说到哪里吗？"

"1966年之前的运动！我们谈到运动以及过去两千年中那些激动人心的事件。"

"对。下面请你们回答一个问题：如果你生活在两千年前的欧洲，你觉得居住在哪个城市最让你兴奋？"

"当然是伦敦。"杰克毫不犹豫地回答道。

"是吗？可是两千年前的伦敦还只是一条泥泞的河边的几间小屋而已。我想罗马会有趣得多。人们常说'条条大路通罗马'，这是因为它是一个庞大帝国的首都。当时的罗马帝国统治着欧洲和北非的大部分地方以及中东的许多地方，最后甚至还把不列颠群岛纳入了它的版图。"

"可这与运动有什么关系？"杰克有些不耐烦了，"罗马人有些什么运动呢？"

"别着急，你马上就会知道。"约翰逊老师说。

老师打开电脑，放进光盘，开始播放节目。在点击的咔哒声和程序运行的嗡嗡声之后，屏幕亮起来，一些彩色字母拼成WHIRLIGIG（意译为"小旋风"）字样。然后，一个眼睛像昆虫的生物出现在屏幕上，一个尖细的声音说道："我是小旋风，能在时光中自由旅行。请键入你们感兴趣的话题。"

"S, P, O, R, T," Jake typed in quickly. The letters O, P, R, S, T, appeared on the screen in an alphabet. They were brightly coloured. Then they danced up and down, and there was some music. The letters changed their order and made the word "SPORT".

Whirligig began to spin. Rings of numbers ran around the screen.

"They're dates!" said Jake.

小旋风

"AD 110," read Sophie as the rings opened out, showing a great city. "Wow!"

"Ancient Rome," said Whirligig. "For 500 years it was the capital of one of the greatest empires the world has ever known. It was ruled by powerful emperors. One of them built the Colosseum – a huge amphitheatre with seats for about 50,000 people. Here, the Romans watched cruel and bloodthirsty entertainments. They put fierce, hungry lions in the arena with slaves or Christians, and they cheered as the human victims were savagely killed.

The Circus Maximus was even bigger than the Colosseum. It was the best place for chariot races, although one Roman poet said it was also the best place to find yourself a girlfriend.

"S–P–O–R–T（Sport，意为运动）。"杰克迅速地敲着键盘。颜色鲜艳的字母O、P、R、S、T出现在屏幕上的一个字母表里，它们在音乐声中上下舞动。这些字母最后按顺序排成了"SPORT"。

小旋风开始旋转，由数字组成的环在屏幕上四处游动。

"那些是年代！"杰克说道。

"公元110年。"苏菲念道。这时数字环延展开来，屏幕上出现了一个辉煌的都市。苏菲不禁惊叹："哇！"

"这里是古代的罗马城，"小旋风开始介绍。"在整整500年当中，它是世界上已知最大帝国之一的罗马帝国的首都。权倾于世的皇帝统治着罗马，他们中的一位在这里兴建了有近50，000个座位的圆形大剧场（Colosseum）。罗马人在这个剧场中观赏残忍而血腥的娱乐节目。他们让奴隶或是基督徒在斗兽场中与凶猛、饥饿的狮子搏斗，当这些可怜的牺牲者们最终丧生于猛兽利爪下的时候，他们欢呼雀跃。"

古罗马模型

"圆形大竞技场（Circus Maximus）比大剧场更为规模宏大。虽然有一位罗马诗人说这里是找对女伴的最佳去处，但它实际上是举行战车竞赛的最好场所。"

图左为大竞技场及椭圆型跑道

The Romans had enormous armies," said Whirligig, "with soldiers who were strictly disciplined and highly trained. The army had many legions of marching soldiers, called infantrymen. They wore armour and carried weapons and heavy packs. They could march for 30 kilometres in a day. At night, when they camped, they built ramparts around the camp for protection. Soldiers had a tough life, but they could earn quite a lot of money.

The Romans constructed long straight roads for their soldiers to march on. With strong armies and good roads, it wasn't difficult for them to conquer so many lands. Everywhere they went, they built new cities and developed trade and industry ..."

"This isn't about sport," interrupted Sophie. Then she typed the word again: "S P O R T".

小旋风接着说:"罗马帝国拥有由纪律严明、训练有素的士兵组成的庞大军队。罗马人所说的步兵包括许多个远征军团。这些士兵顶盔贯甲、携带着武器和沉重的行李。一天能够行军30公里。夜晚扎营的时候、他们在营地四周筑起土墙作为防御工事。士兵们生活非常艰苦、但他们可以挣得许多钱。"

"罗马人修建了长而笔直的道路以便行军。凭借强大的军队和完善的道路设施、罗马人得以轻而易举地征服许多其他地方。他们每到一个地方、就在那里兴建城市并发展贸易和工业……"

"你说的和运动没有关系。"苏菲打断了小旋风。然后她再次键入"SPORT"。

罗马士兵的盔甲由
金属片连缀而成、
十分沉重

士兵的武器包
括矛(左)和短
剑(右)

"All over the empire," Whirligig continued, "people went to amphitheatres to watch sports in their spare time.

Chariot racing was extremely popular. It was as exciting and glamorous as today's Formula One car racing. But instead of Ferrari and McLaren, the teams were called the Whites, Reds, Blues, and Greens. The unfortunate drivers -- the charioteers – weren't highly paid stars like Michael Schumacher. Most of them were slaves. If they won a lot of races they could buy their freedom.

But chariot racing was a very dangerous sport. Charioteers often fell off their chariots and were stamped on by horses. Even worse, sometimes the other charioteers hit them with whips because they wanted to make them crash.

The real stars were the horses – the Emperor Caligula had one called 'Speedy' who lived in his own house with his own slaves to serve him!

Rome was an exciting city, and the sport there was really exciting. But it was also dangerous and, sometimes, not very honest. People paid a lot of money: they wanted their favourite charioteer to win."

"在罗马帝国的各个地方都有圆形竞技场。"小旋风继续说着，"人们在空闲的时候都到那里去观看体育比赛。"

"战车竞赛是当时最风靡的运动。对当时的人们来说，它和今天的一级方程式赛车一样令人兴奋、魅力无穷。不过战车竞赛的参赛队伍只是简单地被称为白队、红队、蓝队或是绿队，不像一级方程式车队那样被冠以各种赞助商的名字，如法拉利车队和麦克拉伦车队。骑手也不是舒马赫那样日进斗金的大明星，他们中的大部分是奴隶。这些不幸的人只有在赢得许多次比赛之后，才有希望买回自由。"

"但这是一项充满着危险的运动。骑手经常会跌出他们的马车、遭到马匹的践踏。更有其者，为了取得胜利，有时候骑手还会用鞭子袭击其他参赛者，让他们撞到一起。"

"战车竞赛中真正的明星是那些拉车的马。古罗马皇帝卡利古拉就曾经有一匹叫做'神速'的马，它住在自己的房子里，有专门的奴仆伺候着！"

"罗马是一个令人兴奋的城市，那里的赛车运动也的确令人血脉贲张。不过这项运动不但危险，有时候也不是十分公正。人们为此付出了大量的金钱，他们想看到自己喜爱的赛车手获胜。"

"If you'd like to watch a Roman chariot race," said Whirligig, "click the video button on the screen."

"Here we go then," said Sophie as she clicked the button. The screen showed a close-up of a racetrack.

Around an arena there were rows of seats rising to the sky. People were moving towards their places. Two boys were walking side by side, talking about the main chariot race, which they had come to watch. They were holding blue flags belonging to their favourite teams. "Marcus only needs to win one more race," said one of the boys, "then he'll have enough money to buy his freedom."

A man with a white flag was standing behind the boys. He was listening to their conversation.

"Slaves shouldn't get their freedom," he interrupted rudely. "Who would do all the work if there were no slaves?"

"想要观看古罗马战车赛的话，"小旋风提示道，"请点击屏幕上的录影键。"

"好吧。"苏菲一边说，一边点击，屏幕上随即出现了一个赛马跑道的特写镜头。

环绕着竞技场是一排排依次升高一直伸向天空的座位，人们正在向着他们各自的位置走去。两个男孩肩并肩走过来，一边谈论着他们所共同关注的战车赛。他们都拿着蓝色的旗帜，这表示蓝队是他们支持的队伍。其中一个孩子说："马库斯只要再赢一次，就有足够的钱为自己赎身了。"

一个拿着白色旗帜的男子站在他们后面，听着孩子们的谈论。

"奴隶不应该得到自由，"他粗野地插嘴说。"如果奴隶都自由了，谁来干活呢？"

The boys didn't answer. As they walked away they heard him shout, "Watch Gaius – he'll win! He's the best charioteer, and he's in the White team. Even the Emperor supports the Whites!"

Sophie laughed. "It's just like a football match today," she said. "And look at the crowd. They're eating oranges instead of hamburgers! I'm going to support Marcus and the Blues."

"I'm going to support Gaius and the Whites," said Jake.

Suddenly, two chariots charged through the triumphal arch at the end of the track. Each chariot was pulled by four horses. One charioteer, Marcus, wore blue clothes and Gaius wore white. The starter dropped a flag and the race began.

The horses rushed round the track. Marcus tried hard to get into the inside lane, but Gaius was in front. Marcus had to pull back to avoid a crash.

The crowd shouted and cheered. Half the crowd supported Gaius, and half of it supported Marcus. They waved blue and white flags. It looked like a blue-and-white sea. Sometimes, one colour was on top, and sometimes the other.

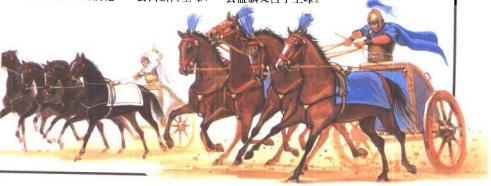孩子们没有回答。他们离去的时候还听到那个男的在大喊大叫："看盖伊乌斯啊！他一定会赢！他是最好的骑手，而且他是白队的，连皇帝都支持白队！"

苏菲笑了："这真像是今天的足球比赛。你看那些观众，他们看比赛时吃的是橘子而不是汉堡包！我打算支持马库斯和他所在的蓝队。"

"那么我就支持盖伊乌斯和白队。"杰克说。

突然，两辆各由四匹马牵引着的战车冲过了跑道尽头的凯旋门，这里是战车赛的起点。一身蓝色打扮的骑手是马库斯、盖伊乌斯则穿着白色的衣服。发令员把旗子向下一挥，比赛开始了。

战车沿着环形的跑道奔驰着。马库斯竭尽全力想进入内道，但是盖伊乌斯在前面挡着，他不得不勒马减速以免和盖伊乌斯的马车撞在一起。

人群中传来阵阵的叫喊声和欢呼声。一半的观众拥戴盖伊乌斯，另一半则希望马库斯赢。他们各自挥舞着白色和蓝色的旗帜，两种颜色此起彼伏，看起来像是蓝色的海洋和白色的浪花。一会白旗占上峰，一会蓝旗又占了上峰。

"Oh, no!" said Sophie, "Marcus is going to lose the race." But Gaius also thought that Marcus was beaten, and so he slowed down. It was a big mistake. Marcus saw his chance. He cracked the whip over the heads of his horses and dashed past Gaius. His chariot went faster and faster. Gaius tried hard but simply couldn't catch Marcus. So the Blues won!

Sophie and Jake were both shouting for their teams. They wished they had flags. Chariot races were great! Rome was great! If this was history, history was great!

"That was a great race!" said Sophie. Then suddenly the picture of the race faded, and the old city of Rome reappeared.

"What happened to Rome, Mr Johnson?" asked Jake. "Why aren't there still chariot races there?"

"Well, we can look at some dates and facts, though you might be bored by them," suggested the teacher.

"Not at all," said Jake and he clicked a button marked "CONTINUE". Whirligig came back on the screen and started to speak again.

"Chariot racing continued in Rome while the Roman Empire was strong," came Whirligig's voice.

"噢，不！"苏菲不禁喊叫起来，"马库斯要输了。"看来盖伊乌斯也认为自己已经胜券在握，开始放慢了速度。这下他可犯了大错。马库斯瞅准机会，鞭子在他的马头上甩出一声脆响，一跃超过了盖伊乌斯。马库斯的战车越跑越快，醒过神来的盖伊乌斯全力追赶，但却怎么也追不上了。蓝队胜利了！

苏菲和杰克都在拼命为自己的队伍加油，巴不得自己手里也有一面旗帜。战车竞赛真精彩！罗马真精彩！如果这就是历史，历史真是太精彩了！

"这场比赛真过瘾！"苏菲说。这时赛车的画面渐渐淡出，古罗马城重新又出现在屏幕上。

"后来罗马怎样了，约翰逊老师？"杰克问道。"为什么现在没有战车竞赛了呢？"

"答案就在这里。虽然你们可能会觉得不怎么有趣，下面还是让我们来看一些年代和事件。"老师回答道。

"绝对不会。"杰克说。他在屏幕上的"继续"键上一点，小旋风又回到屏幕上开始说话。

"在罗马帝国的强盛时期，罗马城一直在举办战车竞赛，"小旋风说道。

"But, by the year AD 286, the government and army were losing power. The Empire split into East and West in AD 395 and in AD 410, people called Visigoths attacked Rome and destroyed many of its magnificent buildings. Chariots never raced in Rome again." Then Whirligig disappeared, and the computer screen went blank.

"That was great," said Jake. "Can we watch another programme next week?"

"Yes, of course," replied Mr Johnson. "I'm glad you enjoyed it."

"Thanks," said Sophie. "See you next week."

"但是到公元 286 年的时候，罗马政府和军队日益衰败。公元 395 年，罗马帝国分裂成西罗马帝国和东罗马帝国。公元 410 年，西哥特人侵入罗马，摧毁了许多宏伟的建筑。战车竞赛就此从罗马城消失了。"小旋风说完就不见了，屏幕上一片空白。

"真有意思。"杰克说。"下周还有别的节目可看吗？"

"当然。"约翰逊老师回答道。"我很高兴看到你们喜欢这个节目。"

"谢谢老师。"苏菲说。"那么下周见。"

战车由两匹马或四匹马牵引。图为一个两马牵引的罗马战车模型，不过其中一匹马已经不见了。一场战车竞赛中可有多达 12 辆战车参赛。