

About this script

Please note that this is not a word for word transcript of the programme as broadcast. In the recording and editing process, changes may have been made which may not be reflected here.

关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

Space Message 宇宙信息

Helen: Hello, welcome to BBC Learning English. I'm Helen.

Sun Chen: Hi, everyone. 我是孙晨。

Helen: Now, it's the question that has gripped generations.

Sun Chen: 而且这个问题我们到现在也没得到任何回音。

Helen: Is there anyone out there?

Sun Chen: **Out there** 要是把这个短语用在说宇宙的时候，意思就是外空间还有和人一样的高级生物吗？

Helen: Well, there is a plan to send a message to a planet just one trillion miles away from us.

Sun Chen: Wow, 把一个数字信息发送到一兆英里以外的空间。What's in the message?

Helen: It's not been decided yet. A project has been launched to collect messages from everyone. The most popular ones will be selected and beamed into space in a few months' time.

Sun Chen: 所以我们也问问周围的人他们都愿意发送什么样的信息到宇宙中去呢？

Insert

I would like to send poetry.

I'd send a piece of music into space, probably one without words, a piece of classical, maybe.

I would send lots of images of human beings, people, just so they can see what we look like.

Helen: There's an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. Maybe pictures of people would be a good idea.

Sun Chen: 没错，一幅图片胜过万语千言。A picture is worth a thousand words. 再加上数字技术，我们现在都能把数字图片发送到宇宙中去。

Helen: And one lady would like to send poetry.

Sun Chen: **Poetry** 诗歌，用诗歌的方式告诉外星人地球人除了说话以外，还有其它的沟通方式。



Helen: And someone wants to send a piece of classical music.

Sun Chen: That's good because music is a very important aspect of our life on earth. 没准音乐比语言更好懂。

Helen: But where are the messages heading to? Here is astronomer Professor Richard Nelson.

Insert:

We're talking about a system of three planets around a star called Gliese 581. This is a small star about 30 percent the size of our sun, located about 20.5 light years away. This is a very interesting planetary system, discovered only last year.

Sun Chen: Richard 教授是一位天文学家，他告诉我们即将要发送信息的星球还是一个刚刚被发现的星体。

Helen: Yes, the star was only discovered last year and it's called Gliese 581.

Sun Chen: 这个星球有太阳的三分之一那么大，距离我们有 20.5 个光年。

Helen: But it's the planets orbiting Gliese 581 that make it so important.

Sun Chen: 运行轨道 orbiting. 围绕这颗恒星运转的有三颗行星。而且没准儿其中的两颗还可能有水存在。

Helen: And as we believe, water is an essential ingredient of life.

Sun Chen: That's right, 水是生命之源。那这么看的话这颗地球上存在生命的可能性有多大呢？

Insert:

Probability of life out there is extremely difficult to quantify because the real unknown in all of this, is knowing what are the ingredients of life itself.

Helen: It's all about the unknown, isn't it?

Sun Chen: Yes, it is. Richard 认为现在还很难说到底宇宙是不是存在其它的生命形态。

Helen: But even the scientists are not sure about what really makes up life itself.

Sun Chen: That's the difficulty. 甚至就连科学家们也无法回答到底生命的组成部分是什么。

Helen: Now let's return to the subject of sending this new digital message to space. What makes it different this time? Let's hear from the project organiser, Oli Madgett.

Insert

The earth has sent a radio wave very famously back in 1974 up into space, but it's been the preserve of scientists and the military and the government. This is the first time that we're allowing everybody to have their say and make their mark and essentially, be in space.

Sun Chen: 在 1974, 人类第一次向宇宙发送信息。不过那个时候, 这可是科学家、军界还有国家政府的特权。这一次可是不同了。

Helen: Oli says this time, everyone can have their say.

Sun Chen: 每个人都有机会 to have a say in something.

Helen: To make their mark.

Sun Chen: 留下他们的记号 to make their mark.

Helen: And the best part is a chance to be in space.

Sun Chen: Absolutely, 这可是一次进入宇宙的好机会。

Helen: Well, I've always believed in extraterrestrial life and if we get a message back from space that would be amazing.

Sun Chen: It might be a long, long wait.

Helen: Who knows? It could happen tomorrow. Anyway, do you believe in extraterrestrial life? What message would you send into space? Please share your thoughts with us.

Sun Chen: 我们的邮件地址是 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk. 我们下次节目再见。

Helen: Bye bye.