

1.

Online Event: What Happened at the Big Bang (爆炸)?

Over the past few decades, we've made unbelievable discoveries about how our universe developed over the past 13.8 billion years. But we still know very little about what happened in the first seconds after the big bang.

In the latest New Scientist online event, the speaker Dan Hooper will examine how physicists are using experiments to re-create the conditions of the big bang, and to deal with mysteries like how our universe came to contain so much matter and so little antimatter.

•Early bird ticket offer £ 12, and your ticket includes:

—Live lecture lasting 40 minutes

—Question & Answer with Dan Hooper

—On-demand access to a recording of the lecture and Q & A, available (可得到的) to watch for 12 months —An additional 40-minute physics lecture

• About the speaker:

Dan Hooper is a senior scientist and the head of the theoretical astrophysics group at the Fermi National Accelerator Lab, as well as a professor of the University of Chicago. He is especially interested in questions about dark matter and the early universe.

•Event information:

This online event will start at 6 pm on Thursday, July 9 and will last for about one hour. Access to a recording of the event will be available from July 10 to ticket buyers for the 12 months following the live event.

•Booking information:

Tickets are only refundable (可退还的) if New Scientist stops this event. New Scientist Ltd has the right to change the event and its arrangement, or stop the event.

Tickets are only available in advance through New Scientist website.

【1】What benefit can the ticket buyers enjoy?

- A. Interviewing the speaker face to face.
- B. Taking someone else to attend the lecture.
- C. Getting a video tape of a 40-minute physics lecture.
- D. Watching a recording of the event within one year.

【2】What can we know about Dan Hooper?

- A. He works at a university.
- B. He is a world-famous writer.
- C. He is the head of New Scientist Ltd.
- D. His study focuses on questions about online events.

【3】What do you have to do if you want to attend the event?

- A. Get in touch with Hooper. B. Buy a ticket ahead of time.
- C. Arrive before 6 pm on the day. D. Get permission from the organizer.

2.

About six years ago, I was on a plane next to a talkative woman. I was tired and wanted to take a nap. But before I could go into "Ignore mode", she tapped me on the shoulder to introduce herself and I knew she was called Helga.

While talking with Helga, I mentioned that I had started an organization in high school called R.A.K.E (Random Acts of Kindness, Etc.). As I described what we did, Helga got very serious and told me that she thought "there was nothing more important in the world than Kindness." I was curious why she was so enthusiastic and, as the plane took off, she talked about her last fight to Arizona three years ago. Just as the plane was about to leave for Phoenix, her father's doctor called to inform her that her dad had suddenly passed away. For the three hour plane ride, she sat in stunned silence around strangers. When she arrived the airport in Arizona, she walked to the nearest wall, sat down, and cried.

And here is the part I'll never forget about Helga's story. For two hours she sat and wept while thousands walked to and from at the airport. Helga looked at me and said, "Houston, nobody stopped and asked if I was okay that day. Not a single person. It was that day that I realized Kindness Isn't Normal."

Kindness Isn't Normal. That has stuck with me all these years — especially now that I work in schools nationwide speaking about sympathy, kindness and love. I'm reminded all the time that, we spend so much time worrying about our problems and our lives that we walk by or ignore people in need of kindness every day. I'm often so worried about ME that I'm really bad at taking care of YOU.

So, I've made it my duty to do my part in making Kindness Normal. I share stories with students, teachers, and parents about our need for character and compassion. I provide young people with practical ways to exercise Kindness (they don't always know what it looks like!).

【1】If you go into "ignore mode" you \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. pay no attention to others B. introduce yourself voluntarily
- C. refuse to answer any questions D. start talking with other people

【2】Why did Helga cry at the airport?

- A. She knew that her father died. B. She felt sick after a long flight
- C. She was surrounded by strangers. D. She arrived at a completely new city.

【3】Helga's story helps the author to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. teach more people in need B. set up the organization R.A.K.E.
- C. pay more attention to his problem D. realize the present situation of kindness

【4】What is the best title for the passage?

- A. A Kind Woman B. Ways to Be Kind
- C. Welcome to R.A.K.E. D. Make Kindness Normal

3.

As people age, the body changes in all sorts of predictable ways. Brains can slow. Wounds take longer to recover. And sleep patterns (模式) shift, too. This can come as news to many, says Michael V. Vitiello, a psychologist at the University of Washington who is expert in sleep in aging.

The most noticeable—and often most annoying—changes are how sleep and wake-up times change and sleep gets lighter, often beginning in middle age. Gone are weekend sleep to 11 a.m. and the ability to sleep through a noisy garbage truck down the block. Older drivers take longer to fall asleep, and they wake up more often.

They tend to stay in the deepest stages of sleep for less time than younger adults.

Studies have found that poor sleep can create a particular threat to older adults—Falls, depression and anxiety, problems with memory, and increased suicide (自杀) risk