宇航员罢工？ Astronauts on strike?

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Neil.

大家好。这里是 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语。我是内尔。

And I'm Georgina.

我是乔治娜。

Have you finished writing that report yet, Neil?

你那个报告写完了吗，内尔?

Err, not quite - it's almost done.

呃，还没有 —— 快完了。

Well, finish it this morning please, then make sure you've planned all the studio sessions for the week and show me so I can double check, OK?

嗯，请今天上午完成，然后务必给这一周做好所有课程的计划，然后拿给我二次核对，好吗?

OK.

好的。

Has this ever happened to you?

你身上发生过这种事吗?

Being micromanaged by someone?

被某人微观管理?

That's what it's called when your boss wants to control everything, down to the smallest detail. ...and I notice you've written the report in font size 11 when I told you to use size 12! ......

这指的是你的上司想要掌控一切，直到最小的细节。我注意到你报告的字体是 11 号字，但我跟你说的是 12 号!

If this keeps up, I might go on strike.

如果这种事情一直发生，我可能会想要罢工。

It wouldn't be the first time someone has refused to continue working because of an argument with their boss.

肯定不止一次有人因为跟上司争吵而拒绝继续工作。

Hmm, maybe I'd better go easy on Neil.

嗯，也许我应该不要那么难为内尔。

After all, I don't want a repeat of what happened on the American spaceship, Skylab - the subject of this programme.

毕竟我不想重演美国飞船 Skylab 上的一幕 —— 这也是本期节目的主题。

In 1973, three US astronauts on board the Skylab space station had a disagreement with mission control over their workload in an incident that has, incorrectly, been called the Skylab space 'strike'.

1973 年，三名 Skylab 空间站的美国宇航员在某个事件中跟地面控制中心就工作量的问题产生了分歧，这个事件被错误地叫做 Skylab 太空罢工。

But before we find out more, let me ask you my quiz question - if that's OK, boss?

但是在我们了解更多内容之前，我要问你一个问题 —— 这样可以吗，上司？

Go ahead.

问吧。

Well, the Skylab astronauts felt they had been given too much work to complete during the space flight.

Skylab 的宇航员觉得他们在太空航行期间被指派了太多工作。

But how did they protest to their bosses at ground control?

他们是如何向地面控制中心的上司们提出抗议的?

Did they a) pretend the radio had broken, b) stop shaving and grow beards, or c) fake the results of their experiments?

他们 A。假装无线电坏了，B。停止刮胡子并开始蓄胡子，还是 C。造假实验数据?

I guess, a) pretending the radio had broken, would show them who's boss - although floating in space without radio contact sounds a bit dangerous to me!

我猜是 A。假装无线电坏了，这样能让他们知道谁才是老大 —— 尽管在太空中没有无线电通讯对我来说有点危险！

OK, Georgina, we'll find out what really happened later.

好的，乔治娜，我们稍后会弄清楚到底发生了什么。

Now, Skylab was planned to be the fourth and final crewed flight to orbit the Earth.

Skylab 当时计划成为第四个也是最后一个配有工作人员的绕地飞行。

For scientists it was the last chance to test out their theories in space and the Skylab crew were asked to study everything about space travel, from its effects on the human body to how spiders make webs.

对于科学家们来说，这是最后一次在太空中验证他们理论的机会，而 Skylab 的成员被要求研究关于太空旅行的一切内容，从它对人体的影响到蜘蛛如何结网。

Here's one of the Skylab astronauts, Ed Gibson, telling Lucy Burns, presenter of BBC World Service programme, Witness History, how they communicated with ground control.

以下是 Skylab 的宇航员之一，艾德·吉布森向 BBC 世界服务节目《见证历史》的主持人露西·彭斯讲述他们如何跟地面控制中心沟通。

We got our instructions over a teleprinter.

我们通过一个电传打印机接受指令。

One morning we had about 60 feet of teleprinter message to cut up and divide up and understand before we even get to work.

有一天早上，在开始工作之前我们就需要将大约 60 英尺的电传信息剪断、分开并理解。

All space missions run to a tight schedule all the way down to exercise times and meal breaks, but the Skylab 4 astronauts felt their ground control team was being particularly bossy.

所有的太空任务都压缩在了一个很紧的时间表里，占满了锻炼时间和餐休，但是 Skylab 的 4 个宇航员感觉地面控制团队表现得非常颐指气使。

I don't know if any of you have ever had to work...do something under the conditions of micromanagement – it's bad enough for an hour, but try 24 hours a day...we're just not constructive that way, we're not getting things done the way we should because we couldn't use our own judgment.

我不知道你们之中有没有人有过不得不工作的经历......在微观管理的条件下做事 —— 这样工作一个小时已经很糟糕了，试试一天 24 小时都这样......我们那样是不会有任何建树的，我们那样什么该完成的都完成不了，因为我们无法自己判断。

With so many experiments to carry out and a limited time in space, the Skylab crew had a tight schedule – a small amount of time to finish a job.

有限的时间里要进行那么多太空实验，Skylab 的成员们时间安排很紧张 —— 要在短时间内完成工作。

Bosses at ground control sent radio messages every morning, detailing exactly their duties for that day.

地面控制中心的上司们每天早上发送无线电信息，详细解释他们当天的具体职责。

They sound like real micromanagers, Neil!

他们听上去真的像微观管理者，内尔！

Absolutely!

没错！

Or in other words, bossy – always telling people what to do!

或者换句话说，颐指气使 —— 总是告诉别人该做什么！

Astronaut, Ed Gibson, wanted to use his professional judgement to complete the work, not be bossed around by ground control 24 hours a day – an expression meaning, all day and night.

宇航员艾德·吉布森想要用他的专业判断来完成工作，我不是被地面控制中心 24 小时 —— 这个表达的意思是整天 —— 指使。

When one of the astronauts got sick, it was decided that they would take turns talking to ground control.

当其中一个宇航员生病了，于是他们决定轮流跟地面控制中心交谈。

But one day, all three of them missed the daily radio meeting and some NASA bosses thought they'd gone on strike!

但是有一天他们三个人都错过了每日的无线电会议，而一些 NASA 的上司们认为他们罢工了！

In the crisis talks that followed, both crew and ground control agreed better ways of working and communicating – and less micromanagement!

在之后的危机谈话中，宇航员和地面控制中心都同意用更好的工作和交流方式 —— 少一点微观管理！

But the newspapers had already got hold of the story, and to this day the incident is misremembered as the 'strike' in space.

但是新闻报纸已经拿到了那个故事，而直到今天这个事件还被误记为太空中的"罢工"。

Here's Ed Gibson again, speaking to BBC World Service's, Witness History, on what he learned from the experience.

下面还是艾德·吉布森，他跟 BBC 的世界服务节目《见证历史》说到了他从这次经历中学到的东西。

We all conclude that we learned something from it - micromanagement does not work, except when you're in a situation that demands it like a lift-off or a re-entry...and fortunately I think that's been passed down to the space station people and they learned that that's the way to go.

我们都认为从这件事中学到了一些东西 —— 微观管理行不通，除非你是在像起飞或重返地球大气层这样需要微观管理的场景中......幸运的是，我认为这种想法传递给了后面的空间站人员，而他们也明白了这才是正确的出路。

In the end NASA agreed that trusting people to do their jobs was the way to go - the best method for doing a particular thing.

最终 NASA 决定信任人们做他们的工作才是正确的出路 —— 做某件事的最佳方法。

I told you, Georgina - no-one likes being bossed around!

我告诉过你，乔治娜 —— 没有人喜欢被使唤！

Including the Skylab astronauts!

就连 Skylab 的宇航员也不例外！

But was my answer correct?

但是我的回答正确吗？

About how they protested?

他们是如何抗议的？

Ah yes, in my quiz question, I asked how the Skylab astronauts protested to their bosses.

啊，是的，在我的问题中，我问你 Skylab 的宇航员是如何向他们的上司抗议的。

What did you say?

你说的是什么？

I thought the astronauts, a) pretended the radio had broken.

我认为是 A。宇航员们假装无线电坏了。

Ah, good guess, Georgina, but actually the answer was b) they stopped shaving and grew beards.

啊，猜得不错，乔治娜，但是事实上答案是 B。他们不再刮胡子并蓄胡子。

Unless that was just another experiment? !

除非那只是另外一个实验？！

Let's recap the vocabulary, starting with micromanage -control everything, down to the smallest detail.

我们来回顾词汇吧，从微观管理开始 —— 控制一切，一直到最细微的细节。

If you're bossy, you're always telling people what to do.

如果你颐指气使，那么你总是告诉别人该做什么。

But be careful, because your workers might go on strike - refuse to work.

但是要小心，因为你的员工可能会罢工 —— 拒绝工作。

The Skylab astronauts had a tight schedule - a small amount of time to complete their jobs.

Skylab 的宇航员日程很紧 —— 只有很少的时间完成工作。

They felt their bosses were watching them twenty-four hours a day, or all the time.

他们觉得自己的上司一天 24 小时都在监视他们，或者说全天。

But in the end, trusting people is the way to go - the best method of doing something.

但是最终，信任他人才是正确的出路 —— 做某事的最佳方法。

That's all for now, but watch this space for more trending topics and useful vocabulary, here at BBC 6 Minute English.

今天的节目就到这里，但是请关注 BBC 六分钟英语这块天地获取流行话题和有用的词汇。

And if you like topical discussions and want to learn how to use the vocabulary found in headlines, why not try out our News Review podcast?

如果你喜欢话题讨论并且想要学习如何使用标题中的词汇，何不试试我们的新闻回顾播客呢？

Don't forget you can also download the app for free from the app store.

别忘记你还可以从应用商店免费下载 APP。

And remember to check us out on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

请记得在脸书、推特和 INS 上查看我们。

Over and out!

通话完毕！

Bye!

再见！