

NAME: _____

DATE: _____



1. When was "The Time Machine" written?"

1985

about 2,000 years ago

very recently

more than 100 years ago

2. When did Stephen Hawking become interested in time travel?

late in his life

never

always

The lecturer doesn't say.

3. Why did King Kakumi travel back in time?

to find a husband for his daughter

to find his daughter

to help his daughter's husband

to tell people about the future

4. What does Michio Kaku say is needed for time travel?

a special lock

space exploration

high speed

a very bright light

5. What does Sir Martin Reese think about time travel?

It may be possible.

It is impossible.

Time isn't real.

The lecturer doesn't say.

6. Who said that time travel may be dangerous?

Stephen Hawking

Michio Kaku

Sir Martin Reese

King Kakudmi

Discuss these questions with a friend or classmate.

1. Do you think time travel into the future is possible? Why? / Why not?
2. Do you think time travel into the past is possible? Why? / Why not?
3. What would you do if you could travel into the future?
4. What would you do if you could travel into the past?
5. What science fiction movies or stories about time travel do you know about?
6. Do you think time travel may be dangerous? Why? / Why not?

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Audio Script

Time travel has been a popular subject among science fiction fans, ever since H.G. Wells wrote *The Time Machine* over a century ago in 1895. More recently, the potential of time travel has piqued the interest of some of the world's most respected cosmologists, astrophysicists, and other experts in the physics field including the late Stephen Hawking, Michio Kaku, and Sir Martin Reese, among many others.

Stephen Hawking, one of the world's most esteemed scientists and cosmologists who ever lived once said, "Time travel has always been a fascinating concept for me. With time travel one could go back in time and witness, and perhaps even change, past events. This could lead to a variety of paradoxes, such as the grandfather paradox, where one might go back in time and kill their own grandfather preventing them from ever being born. This could be a good thing as one could prevent tragedy or right wrongs, but it could also be disastrous with changes to timelines leading to unforeseen consequences."

The idea of time travel has been documented across centuries with evidence even appearing in ancient Hindu texts, specifically in the story of King Kakudmi. In the story, written about 2,400 years ago, King Kakudmi travels back in time in an attempt to help his daughter find a suitable husband. However, in modern times it's still unclear as to whether or not time travel is possible. Michio Kaku has said, "Space and time are locked together. This means that to travel in time, one must travel through space. Achieving this would require going faster than the speed of light, which is not currently possible."

It appears that the possibility of time travel is far from certain. But that doesn't mean scientists aren't trying to explore the possibility. According to Sir Martin Reese, "We have advanced greatly in our understanding of time and space and this has allowed us to take tentative steps towards the possibility of time travel. We're still a long way off achieving it, but there are theories that point to the possibility in some form."

So, for now, time travel remains a science fiction fantasy. But, with new advancements in the fields of physics and cosmology we may one day find ourselves able to explore the possibilities of time travel. Until then, we'll just have to keep our eyes wide open and explore the scientific research being done, with the hopes of one day being able to move through time!

ANSWER KEY

1. more than 100 years ago
2. always
3. to find a husband for his daughter
4. high speed
5. It may be possible.
6. Stephen Hawking