

Words by Theme Self-assessment

Complete the article about ancient Roman chariot racing below with the given words. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Adjective: athletic electrifying fast-paced

Phrasal verb: root for

Noun: fanatic novice obstacle strategy

Phrase: gain a following

Verb: hesitate navigate refine

Chariot racing in ancient rome

Two thousand years ago, Romans enjoyed a / an (1) _____ event that showcased physical prowess, namely chariot racing. In this (2) _____ race, two-wheeled carts, or chariots, were pulled by powerful horses. The drivers stood on the chariots to direct horses. It was a / an (3) _____ sport that many Romans loved to watch.

The biggest chariot races in ancient Rome were held at the gigantic racecourse called Circus Maximus. On race days, it was filled with thousands of enthusiastic racing (4) _____, who would loudly (5) _____ their favourite driver. It was very much like horse racing in Hong Kong today.

As drivers (6) _____ their way through the racecourse, serious crashes often happened. These accidents resulted in broken chariots, injured drivers and other (7) _____ that had to be quickly cleared away, so that they would not pose a danger to other drivers.

The drivers were often very young slaves. It usually took many years for (8) _____ to (9) _____ their skills and to learn (10) _____ that helped them to become successful. A driver who was able to win races regularly would attract the attention of race fans and rapidly (11) _____. Prize money was often quite sizeable. A slave driver who won multiple races could receive enough money that he could buy his own freedom. That was the reason why most drivers seldom (12) _____ to risk their lives on the racecourse.

