

I. READING COMPREHENSION (12 marks)

THE TEXT

1. Dr Michael Bane, who runs The University of Manchester's Bike User Group, has been presented with a national green award. Michael has been named as an 'Environmental Hero' under the National Union of Students' Green Impact programme. Green Impact encourages and celebrates pro-environmental behaviours in universities, and honours eco-friendly champions. Michael clinched the award due to his commitment to environmental issues, particularly cycling. He runs the University's Bike User Group (UMBUG), all in his own time, organises an annual cycling day and coordinates monthly cycle rides which include free breakfasts.

2. Michael launched his campaign three years ago when he was 48 years old. He has successfully applied for several thousand pounds in grants from the City Council to allow the university to run cycle training sessions and bike maintenance sessions. Michael said: "I'm honoured to receive the Award and would like to thank the dedication of all the cyclists, old and new, especially those who have just started! "UMBUG holds ever popular monthly guided rides along safe routes into the University and membership has grown steadily over the years. With the support of cyclists, UMBUG has encouraged many car drivers to hop out of the driving seat and on to the saddle."

3. The **NUS** awarded him a trophy as well as £100 worth of vouchers for a local bicycle shop. The award was handed over by Professor Maynard Case, Associate Vice-President at The University of Manchester. He said: "Michael is a self-sacrificing and enthusiastic member of staff who is totally committed to promoting the benefits of cycling and encouraging staff and students to cycle to the University. This professor is an inspiration to us all in how to embrace more environmentally friendly behaviour. I would like to thank Michael for his continued dedication and I'm very pleased that his years of hard work have been recognised nationally."

<http://umbug.manchester.ac.uk> - 10 Feb 2011

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Tick (✓) the most suitable title for the text (1 mark)

- a. Bane gets a boost for cycle campaign
- b. Bane switches his car for a bicycle
- c. Bane increases annual cycling



2. Complete the following table from the text with right information about Michael Bane (4 marks)

a. Name	Michael Bane
b. Age	51
c. Occupation	UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR
d. Achievement	promoting the benefits of cycling and encouraging staff and students to cycle to the University
e. Award	national green award OR a trophy as well as £100 worth of vouchers for a local bicycle shop

3. Find a detail in the text showing that the following statement is false (1 mark)

- Bane relied on his own financial resources to launch his environmental campaign.

He has successfully applied for several thousand pounds in grants from the City Council to allow the university to run cycle training sessions and bike maintenance sessions.

4. Pick out TWO different benefits that Bane realized through his campaign (2 marks)

- Many car drivers hop out of the driving seat and on to the saddle.
- More university students are cycling.
- to embrace more environmentally-friendly behaviour

5. Answer the following questions: (1 mark)

- Why was Michael Bane named 'environmental hero'?

Due to his commitment to environmental issues, particularly cycling.

6. Find out the words in the text meaning approximately the same as the following (2 marks)

- a. Prize and award: trophy
- b. Bicycle seat: saddle

7. What does the underlined acronym stand for? (1 mark)

- "NUS" stands for: the National Union of Students



II. LANGUAGE (6 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the box- There are TWO EXTRA words (3 marks)

lose / better / in / unwillingly / keep / abroad / despite / easier

When one nation becomes a substantial net exporter of academic talent, a "brain drain" condition is said to occur. Many scholars who have been sent **abroad** for further studies remain there leaving their family and workplace behind with the hope that a better life can be achieved elsewhere, **despite** their well being at home. Expectations are usually not met as hoped. They may feel ashamed of themselves to return home empty handed. Thus, they **unwillingly** decide to stay there for good. Another cause of migration is political instability in home countries, thus they **lose** confidence in their governments and future prospects for a **better** life. These are individuals who may have difficulties because of their ethnic, cultural, religious belongings or being a member of opposition political groupings in their home countries, - Migration taking place **in** response to wars, and political and social turmoil.

2. Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form (3 marks)

Eighty per cent of Britons would like to escape the urban grind and live in the countryside, a survey reveals. Despite this, only 20 per cent of Britons (**actual**) **actually** reside in rural areas - 12million compared to 48million. Many urban dwellers say they want to go rural because it is (**safe**) **safer** for children and much more picturesque in the countryside - with 67 per cent confident there is less crime in the countryside. But 87 per cent (**attract**) **are attracted** by the simple beauty of the surroundings. Other positive qualities people associated with the countryside were fresh air, tranquillity, (**clean**) **cleanliness** and having more space. Rupert Uloth, deputy editor of Country Life, said: 'After all the crises that (**hit**) **have hit** the countryside lately, it is something of a triumph that so many people still harbour a desire to live in the country. 'The British countryside is so locally (**distinguish**) **distinct** in so many areas that there is a richness there that you do not get in, for example, America.



III. WRITING (10 marks)

1. GUIDED WRITING

Use the notes below to develop a four-line paragraph about eco-driving (4 marks)

- Eco-driving : smarter and more fuel-efficient driving.
- Practical ways : (a) regular car maintenance (checking engine oil and tyre pressure) (b) Safe driving style (avoid sudden brakes/ smooth use of gear) (c) avoid driving for short distances 'if it's not far, don't go by car'
- Eco-driving is the best way to get a smarter and more fuel-efficient driving through some practical ways. To start with drivers should keep a regular car maintenance and check the engine oil and tyre pressure. Add to this, they have to follow a safe driving style through avoiding sudden brakes and a smooth use of gear. Last but not least, they ought to avoid driving for short distances whenever possible as the proverb says 'if it's not far, don't go by car.'

2. Essay (8 marks)

You've been informed that one of your dearest friends, Slim, seems to get some health problems due to his bad food habits making him get fatter and fatter.

In reaction to this matter, write a letter to your friend Slim, telling him about the risks posed by such bad habits and suggesting efficient ways to keep fit and healthy.

- Introduction: introducing the health issue related to eating habits and the risks posed by unbalanced diet- the necessity of keeping healthy through different ways (e.g following a balanced diet)
- Details:
 - * strong will and determination to follow a balanced diet, to lose weight, to keep fit and healthy
 - * what should we avoid (bad eating habits, fats & carbohydrates, laziness after meals, irregular meals, fast food)
 - * what should we eat? (necessary nutrients + examples)
 - * why should we eat them? (benefits of each nutrient)
 - * what may happen with too much or too little of these nutrients (warning of health problems: obesity, inappropriate growth, tiredness and several other incurable diseases)
 - * regular morning exercises: walking, jogging, push-ups....
- Conclusion: personal view point / wish

