2013 外籍生筆試考題

1. 英譯中(50分)

Away from it all

To Boff Whalley, running isn't about pounding the pavements or a treadmill. It's the "mud, spit and sweat" of running in the wild, through forests, up and down scraggy¹ hills, in sunshine, rain and snow. In *Run Wild*, Mr Whalley took a year out to write a paean to fell² running, the sport he first discovered with his father near his home in Lancashire, and has been enjoying around the world for the past quarter-century, alongside his day job playing in a rock band, Chumbawamba.

Urban running never appealed to Mr Whalley. The marathon is his bugbear³. He wonders why so many people suffer pain and boredom in order to join the "Sunday service at the shrine of concrete". (He tried it once.) He reiterates this point to the verge of ranting, but his disdain for marathons is inversely proportional to his love of wild running, which sings from the pages. (204 words)

(From The Economist's Aug 4, 2012 review of Boff Whalley's book Run Wild)

2. 中譯英(50分)

11 元的鐵道旅行

台灣最慢的火車,最短區間的里程,最便宜的旅行,票價是11元。11元潛藏著,緩 慢的節奏、淳樸的生活、迷人的風物。更湊巧的,「11」也隱含著另一層意象:「我是 坐11路來的」⁴。

火車的來去拘限於固定路線,軌道不輕易隨山勢起伏,彷彿減緩了人類破壞土地的 面積。鐵道事物乃逐漸變成守舊的代名詞,火車杵⁵在面前,或者一條鐵軌的橫陳⁶,都 明白地告訴你,「很抱歉,我只能這樣,只能到此,其他就靠你自己了。」靠什麼方式 呢?下了車,我幾乎都用走路。(244字 including punctuation)

(摘錄自劉克襄的《11元的鐵道旅行》自序)

¹ British regionalism meaning 'jagged' or 'rough', etymologically of Scandinavian provenance.

² Also a British dialect term, meaning 'a high barren field', from the PIE root *pel(i)s - 'rock', 'cliff'.

³ Originally a sort of goblin (bug) in the shape of a bear, later any object of dread or derision.

⁴ Saying you rode the No. 11 bus in Taiwan means that you walked somewhere instead of driving.

⁵ 彳乂∨:呆立不動。如:「你杵在那裡幹嘛?」

⁶ 横臥。