



1. A DIFFERENT PATH

Manga English Series Vol. 1

English Education Laboratory

1. A Different Path

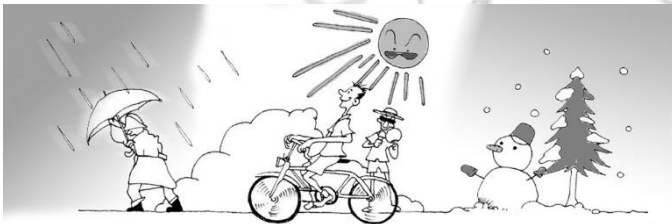


Jason rode his bicycle
everywhere.

He rode through the park
to his job every morning
and after work
he rode back
along the river.



On the weekends
he would ride his bicycle
into the downtown shopping area
to meet his friends.



If it was raining,
cold,
or really hot,

Jason would ride his bicycle anyway.

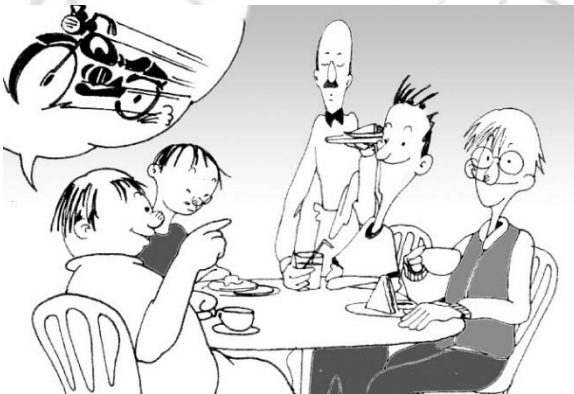
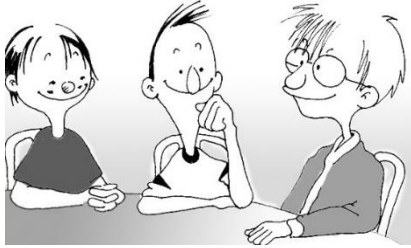


On a sunny Saturday morning

Jason met his friends
next to a large downtown department store.

Jason's friends all
drove motorcycles
and when Jason arrived,
they were parking their bikes
next to the store.

Jason locked his bicycle



to a green metal post.

Soon they were all ordering breakfast
across the street
at an outdoor café.

"Why don't you get a motorcycle, Jason?"

One of the friends asked.

"They are faster
and more exciting,"
his friend continued.

"I do not like motorcycles,"

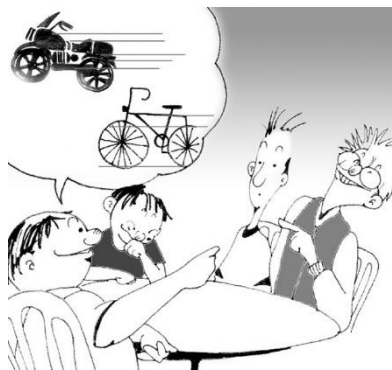
Jason replied
with a smile.

"But all of us have motorcycles
except for you.

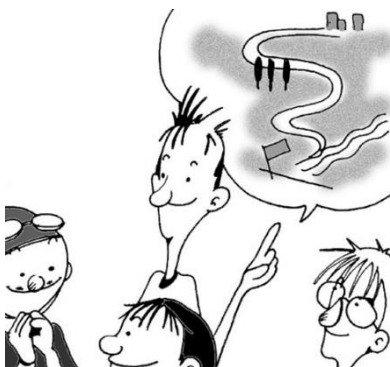
Perhaps you are afraid of riding something
that is so fast!"

Another friend said
with a laugh.

Jason was silent
for a moment
and then said,
"Motorcycles do not always
get us some places faster."



At first
his friends laughed at his remark
and then they decided
to challenge Jason
to a race.



After breakfast
they told Jason
to choose the final destination
that they would race to.

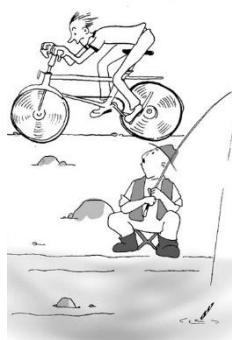
Jason chose a place
near the river
on the other side of town.

Then Jason said, "Go!"

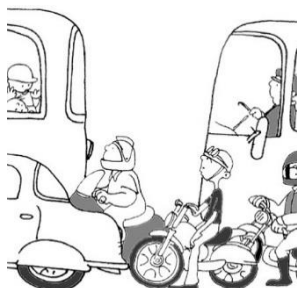
They sped away.



The river was a little far,
but Jason knew many shortcuts.
He rode through the city's park
while his friends rode around it
in heavy weekend traffic.



Then Jason rode
along the river
while his friends had to use
the busy streets
that were jammed with



sight-seeing tour-buses.



For the last part of the race

Jason and his friends

could not use a bicycle

or a motorcycle.

There were too many stones and rocks

alongside the river

and so

they would have to finish the race

by running.

All of them began running

at about the same time,

but of course

Jason was much faster

than his friends.

From cycling every day

he had developed

very strong, muscular legs

and won the race

by almost half a minute.

When everybody reached

the finishing place,

Jason smiled

and once again said,

"Motorcycles do not always
get us some places faster."



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