

The Other Team in Manchester

I know this probably sounds strange but I can't stand Manchester United. I hate their manager and I hate their players who get paid too much and think they're the best. I hate their souvenir shop and I really really hate their fans. You see I've got nothing in common with 98% of their fans because-unlike them-I was born in Manchester. I know a lot about football and I've been to Manchester United's ground, Old Trafford. I particularly hate their fans around the world who I've met when I've been abroad and who say to me oh you come from Manchester do you like football? I love Manchester football team very much. The thing is you see I support the other team in Manchester-Manchester City not United. I always have done and I always will. I'll be a City fan until I die.

I grew up in Moss Side Manchester in the 1950s and my dad supported Manchester City so I did too. When I was growing up he always used to say you can choose your friends but you can't choose your football team. It's part of your family history, part of who you are. The new Manchester United fans who first got interested in them when they won the Treble -the Champions League-the FA Cup and the Premiership- in 1999 will never understand this! They only support them because they win things. Supporting a football club is about more than that, though. It's about hope and belief. Even when everything is going wrong and your team has just gone down to the Second or Third Division or you've lost a big match against your local rivals, you have to believe that things will get better.

COMPREHENSION:

Say whether these statements are true or false and justify:

3marks

1. The speaker is a supporter of Manchester United.
.....
2. The Treble means to win the Champions League.
.....

Answer these questions with your own words:

3marks

- What does it mean to be a supporter of football club?
.....
- Can the speaker choose his football club? Why?
.....

GRAMMAR

Put these words in the right sentence:

5marks

(too , not enough , any , some, one)

- I like that blue leather jacket than the red.....
- There are bananas in the fridge.
- I'm old to watch this movie with you.
- Are there history books in the school library?
- It's cold . could you please close the window.

WRITING:

9marks

Write an essay about your plans for the New Year 2010 .And about your resolution in it. Use the future.