



Worksheet B6

Do this with Lesson 5.

Put all completed work in your folder.

In the Third Review of the Kildare County Development Plan (1985), land was re-zoned for future development and a **buffer zone** was created between Maynooth and the nearby towns of Leixlip and Celbridge. The environments of the college, Carton House and the canal areas were also safeguarded, thus protecting the historical character of the town and ensuring a green belt which would create a physical and visual break between urban areas.

The opening of the new motorway by-pass from Lucan to Kilcock has taken the main flow of heavy traffic westward, away from the town. CIE plans to extend the rail services and quality bus routes. These should ease commuter problems, as well as the flow of traffic in the town.

In the town centre, an extensive building programme attempted to regenerate the old market square. In addition to this, a new shopping centre, apartment blocks and offices have been completed on the Celbridge road.

The Dukes Harbour on the Royal Canal has been restored by the OPW and work on the canal bridge is continuing, together with the new road scheme for the approach to the motorway.

1. How could Maynooth protect its historic character from the urban development spreading westward from Dublin?

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2. Lucan, Leixlip, Dunboyne and Celbridge are all growing rapidly. Is there a need to create distinctive "green belts"? Why?

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3. What demands will a population of 10,000 make on the local authority? What changes might occur to the historic atmosphere of the town?

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4. With a growing resident population, what additional services must Maynooth plan for? Consider schools, housing, medical services and leisure facilities, as well as electricity and water supplies, post and telecommunications services, transport, fire services etc.

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5. At present, Maynooth relies mainly on the university and commuting to Dublin for employment. Is this likely to remain the case in the future, or should Maynooth seek to bring heavy industry to the area? Explain your answer.

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6. Examine Map 5. Can you locate any businesses or services which may have boosted employment in the area?

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7. What is a by-pass? Why are by-passes becoming increasingly common in the Irish countryside?

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8. List some of the adverse effects which heavy traffic can have on small Irish towns like Maynooth.

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9. Compare the photographs showing old shop-fronts on the main street and new shop-fronts along one side of the courthouse square. In what ways has the designer of the new buildings tried to maintain traditional shop-fronts, as well as a traditional proportion in the units?

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NEIGHBOURHOOD, VILLAGE, TOWN, CITY

10. Look again at the photos of Main Street in Maynooth. Is there anything which visually disrupts the tree-lined vista? If so, what is it? What could be done about it?

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11. What improvements would you make to Main Street? Consider parking, signs, overhead wires, paving, street furniture etc.

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12. Given its historical importance and its proximity to Dublin, could Maynooth have any future in the tourist industry? Is the canal a potential tourist amenity? Elaborate on your answers.

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Homework

Plan an imaginary walking tour of Maynooth. It should include the college, the castle, the canal, town centre, and Carton House and gardens. Draw a map which highlights important points of interest, both historical and contemporary.



Scrapbook

Collect examples of traditional or mock-traditional shop-fronts. Begin a new page/section in your Scrapbook and give it an appropriate title.

Vocabulary File

Add new words and definitions to your file.