1. Think about the diction in the following excerpt from the essay. Why does Kincaid repeat the word “dew”?

“If it is December there is dew everywhere: dew on the painted red galvanized rooftops; dew on my mother’s upside-down washtubs; dew on the stones that make up her stone heap”

A. to emphasize the beauty that is everywhere in the morning

B. to paint a picture of how her home island looked in December

C. to persuade you to believe that her home island was too wet

D. to compare and contrast the winters on two islands

2. Read the following excerpt from a long sentence that describes Kincaid’s childhood chores. What effect does this diction have? “swept up the yard, fed the chickens, taken a bath in cold water, polished my shoes, pressed my school uniform”

A. showing how busy she was in the morning

B. explaining why she liked doing the chores

C. proving how much she helped her family

D. demonstrating how fast time seemed to pass

3. To compare and contrast the islands in the essay, Kincaid includes details about

A. people’s occupations

B. morning routines

C. geographical features

D. neighbors’ conversations

4. Kincaid’s use of chronological order helps you understand

A. differences among people on different islands

B. how objects in her family’s yard were arranged

C. what she did each morning as a child

D. which magazines she read in Manhattan

 5. Think about the diction in the following excerpt from the essay. Why does the author list the days? “Every morning—workday, Saturday, or Sunday—the whole island was alive by six o’clock.”

A. to show that island life was dull

B. to show that the people always awoke early

C. to compare Saturdays with Sundays

D. to tell how she feels about waking early

6. The author compares and contrasts the two islands by telling about

A. people’s jobs

 B. land features

 C. morning activities

 D. farms and crops

7. The author uses chronological order to describe

A. her morning activities

B. her mother’s garden

C. crops grown on her home island

D. the magazines she read

8. The authors purpose for writing this essay is to

A. Persuade you to go Antigua

B. Explain the significance of her home

C. Inform you about her life in Antigua

D. Entertain you with details about her life

Extended Response Answer one of the following questions based on your knowledge of the essay. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper.

 13. Kincaid uses bright colors to describe her home island and somber colors to talk about Manhattan. How might this use of color words reflect her feelings about each place? Include details from the essay in your answer.

 14. Does Kincaid present life on her home island and her new island as difficult or pleasant? Use examples from the essay to support your response. Then, explain which life you would prefer and give reasons why.

Key

1. A

2. A

3. B

4. C

5. B

6. C

7. A

8. C

Extended Response: Responses may vary. Make sure they have text evidence.