

Section A: Reading Comprehension

Spend up to 30 minutes on this section

Read the **Text**, about The Mysterious Island, in the Insert. Then answer questions 1–17.

- 1 What was the weather like when Anna arrived on the island?

Cold and misty [1]

- 2 Look at the **first** paragraph (lines 1-6).

a. Find an adverb.

violently / barely [1]

b. Find a passive verb.

had been told [1]

- 3 Find a word from the first paragraph that means mysterious and frightening.

eerie [1]

- 4 Name **one natural element** that created an eerie atmosphere when Anna first arrived on the island.

waves crashed ... / mist [1]

- 5 Look at lines 7-8 in the **second** paragraph. Identify the main clause and the subordinate clause in this sentence:

"As she walked, the trees seemed to close in around her."

As she walked - subordinate / the trees seemed to close in around her - main [2]

- 6 Provide quotations of techniques used by the author to appeal to the **senses** (sight, sound, smell) **inside the cottage** to build a sense of mystery?

Smell	"the air was musty"
Sound	"The door opened with a loud creak"
Sight	"Windows were broken" / "dust covered every surface"

[2]

7 Find a comparative adjective from the **second** paragraph.

further / quieter [1]

8 Identify a figurative language used in the **second** paragraph and explain its effect.

Simile (their branches reaching out like twisted arms) - It gives the reader the feeling that Anna is trapped or being surrounded by the trees. / The simile makes the forest seem scary, as if the trees are alive and trying to grab Anna. [2]

9 Which two descriptions correctly describe the cottage's condition?

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

The floorboards were polished and clean.

☐

A thick layer of dust covered the room, and the air was dry.

☐

The windows were shattered.

☐

The wooden door was firmly locked and impossible to move.

☐

[2]

10 What was the journal that Anna found about?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

The location of the island

☐

A warning about the island's secrets

☐

Instructions on how to leave the island

☐

A list of hidden treasures

☐

[1]

11 Convert this sentence into **passive** voice.

"Anna found a journal on the table."

A journal was found on the table by Anna. [1]

12 The journal Anna found was old. Give **two** words that show us this.

Yellowed and fragile [2]

13 What does the word "dilapidated" mean in this sentence: "She came upon an old, dilapidated cottage."?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Well-maintained

☐

Bright and clean

☐

In a state of disrepair

☐

Recently built

☐

[1]

14 The connective "however" is used to show **contrasting ideas** in writing.
Find a similar connective used to contrast in the **fourth** paragraph (lines 17-20).

but [1]

15 Look at the **last** paragraph (lines 21-23). Why did the writer use a dash in:
"there was nothing there – just the mist swirling around the trees."

To create a dramatic pause. [1]

16 How was Anna **feeling**? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Anna's feeling: afraid / scared/ frightened/ nervous/ terrified/ ...

Evidence: 'a sound made Anna jump' / 'Anna's heart raced...' / 'she could no longer ... being watched.'

[2]

17 What is the **genre** of this story? Provide a feature of this genre **used in the text**.

Genre of the story **suspense/ mystery/ adventure**

A feature used in the text

1. **Setting and Atmosphere: Cold, misty morning; crashing waves; eerie silence; musty cottage.**

1. **Uncertainty / Mystery**

2. **Detailed, Unsettling Descriptions**

3. **Sudden Events**

4. **Cliffhanger Ending: Anna feels she is being watched, but sees nothing in the mist.**