

## Answers to English 11+ Paper B 2014

### Section 1

1. We know that Selkirk is on an island because the poem says "From the centre all round to the sea".
2. We know that Selkirk is the only human on the island because of "My right there is none to dispute". Other possible answers are "O Solitude!", "out of humanity's reach" etc,
3. "I must finish my journey alone" means that Selkirk anticipates spending the rest of his days alone. The word "journey" refers to the life he has ahead of him. They **must** show that they understand that "journey" is a metaphor but they don't need to use the word metaphor.
4. Selkirk's voice makes him jump because he is not used to the sound of human voices anymore. "I start at the sound of my own".
5. If Selkirk had "the wings of a dove" he would fly away from the island to find other humans. He would look for "Society, Friendship, and Love".
6. In stanza four the word "desolate" means bleak.
7. Selkirk wonders whether his friends ever think about him. He wonders if they send "A wish or a thought after me".
8. I think the poet uses repetition with the word "friend/s" in stanza four because it emphasizes what Selkirk is missing. The repetition shows how much he feels the loss of friendship.
9. Selkirk despairs when he forgets where he is for a moment. He imagines himself back home and then despairs when reality hits him."Recollection at hand soon hurries me back to despair".
10. I think the overall tone of the poem is quite sad and poignant. The emphasis on Selkirk's loneliness is what makes it feel like this and the choice of words such as "But, alas!".

### Section 2

1. An example of a simile from the extract is "creeping like Snail". This is effective because it produces a picture in your head of a snail going really slowly and therefore emphasizes the boy's reluctance to go to school.
2. When the author says that lessons begin before nine he means that nature starts teaching lessons before this time. He believes that there is a lot to learn from nature and that learning does not just take place in a classroom.
3. The word "unconsciously" in the context of "trains the ear quite unconsciously" means that the training takes place with no awareness that it is happening. The child is not going out of his way to learn the sounds of the birds.
4. I think that the author personifies nature because it makes nature seem more powerful. By giving it human characteristics he makes the reader feel that nature makes decisions and is a force to be reckoned with. The reader can befriend nature.
5. President Roosevelt's parents encouraged him to pursue outdoor activities to try and build up his strength and stamina as "he was far from strong".
6. One example of personification is "Nature herself is the teacher".
7. Kingbirds are distinguishable from other birds by the white band across the end of their tails.
8. "Many there are who have eyes and see not". This means that there are people who can physically see but do not notice things. They do not pick up on the beauty of nature around them.
9. According to the author humans possess imagination. He refers to it as a "high power possessed by humans alone".
10. The main point made in the last paragraph is that using the heart rather than the brain when it comes to nature, is the best thing for a child's development of empathy.

### Section 3

1. patiently
2. fractured
3. accommodation
4. fortitude
5. speciality
6. decease
7. exceptional
8. taller
9. contaminated
10. unanimously