
Island

Stanley Cook

- 1 Firing molten rock at the sky
And shrugging water off, the island-to-be
Rises steaming from the sea
Whose waters quench its volcanic sides.
- 5 Rising mountainous from the depths,
It takes its place with continents,
Though only a speck by comparison,
Above the tides and on the maps.
- 9 A part of the world has been rebuilt,
A staging post for birds to visit
And simple plants to inhabit
Once the years weather and cool it.
- 13 The forging from the earth's hot core
Settles into its final shape:
People will find it a name;
Someone one day will put ashore.



1 Look at the first verse.

What do the words “*Firing molten rock at the sky*” tell you about the island?

2d

1 mark

2 Why is the new island “*steaming*”?

2a

1 mark

3 The poet describes the island as “*Rising mountainous from the depths*”. This makes it sound big and impressive.

What else do you learn about the size of the island in the same verse?

2d

1 mark

4 In verse 3, the term “*staging post*” is closest in meaning to which of the following? Tick **one**.

a place to build a nest a pole for perching on

a special nesting box a stopover place

5 Look at the verse beginning “*A part of the world*”.

Find and copy the word that means *make it smoother*.

2a

1 mark

6 In the final verse, the poet uses the word “*forging*” to describe the island.

List **two** impressions this word gives you about the island, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

2g

3 marks

7 In the first verse, the island is said to rise from the sea.

Find and copy two other places the poet describes the island as coming from.

2b

2 marks

8 Number the following sentences from **1** to **5** to show the order in which they happen to the island.

The first one has been done for you.

It rises from the sea. 1 People will land on it. People will name it.

Plants will grow on it. Time will cool it.

9 **Find and copy** evidence from the first verse that there is not yet an island.

2c

1 mark

2a

1 mark