**Island Man – Summary**

Fill in the blanks in the passage below. The words you need are in the box. Complete it in pencil and tick off the words as you use them. The answers follow – don’t cheat, please!

Key word: immigrants - a [person](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/person) who has come to a different [country](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/country) in [order](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/order) to [live](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/live) there [permanently](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/permanently)

The poem *Island Man* is about how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can still remember their place of birth in their dreams. It is also about how hard it is to get used to a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when it is totally different to the one you have left behind.

The island man could be the poet because she came to this country in 1980. However, the name *Island Man* also makes you think of every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who has left their original home to come and live in Britain.

The first half of the poem is peaceful and relaxing. It describes the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sights and sounds of a beautiful Caribbean island. However, this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ changes when the poet switches her focus and begins to describe the reality of waking up to a new day in busy, drab, dreary London.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the poem is almost like the breaking of waves on a seashore. This works well: the varying lengths of the lines, and the words used, create a sense of waves rolling onto a beach.

The poet uses the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of sights and sounds to help to structure the poem. First she builds a picture of living on an island in the West Indies: *the sound of blue surf, the sun surfacing, the wild seabirds, the fishermen pushing out to sea,* etc. Then she contrasts this description with the phrases used to describe London: *the sands of a grey metallic soar, the surge of wheels, the dull North Circular roar.* This helps to paint a picture of two very different worlds.

The poet uses three poetic devices very effectively. In the first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you notice the use of the real verb *breaking* and the invented verb *wombing*. These words suggest comfort and security because they make you think of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They suggest the island man gradually emerging from his soothing dream and into the real world...like a baby being born. The poet also uses colour very effectively to paint contrasting pictures of the Caribbean island and of London. At the beginning of the poem, the colours used to describe the Caribbean island are very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For example, *blue surf* and *emerald island.* Towards the end of the poem, the colours used to describe London are very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For example, *grey metallic soar* and *dull North Circular.* This is effective because it provides a good contrast between the past and the present – between living in the West Indies and living in London. The colours provide clues about how the man feels: happy and full of life in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; sad and depressed in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The reader is left with the impression that the present life in London is a poor substitute for the Caribbean past.

Lastly, I would like to look at the use of repetition used in lines:

11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11-12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

16 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I think that the poet uses repetition to slow the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ down. It allows the reader to focus on the implications of the man waking from his dream. It suggests that the man has to accept the daytime reality of living in London, but in his dreams he keeps alive the memories of living in the West Indies.

In conclusion, I think that the poem works very well. The reader is given an insight into what it must be like for an immigrant living in a new country. Surrounded by a different culture, emotional ties to your homeland remain and many happy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are locked inside you.

Childbirth memories London immigrants

Bright rhythm Caribbean tranquil

Stanza mood environment drab person

Pace contrast

Answers:

Fill in the blanks in the passage below. The words you need are in the box. Complete it in pencil and tick off the words as you use them.

The poem *Island Man* is about how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_immigrants\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can still remember their place of birth in their dreams. It is also about how hard it is to get used to a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_environment\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when it is totally different to the one you have left behind.

The island man could be the poet because she came to this country in 1980. However, the name *Island Man* also makes you think of every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_person\_\_\_\_ who has left their original home to come and live in Britain.

The first half of the poem is peaceful and relaxing. It describes the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_tranquil\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sights and sounds of a beautiful Caribbean island. However, this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_mood\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ changes when the poet switches her focus and begins to describe the reality of waking up to a new day in busy, drab, dreary London.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_rhythm\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the poem is almost like the breaking of waves on a seashore. This works well: the varying lengths of the lines, and the words used, create a sense of waves rolling onto a beach.

The poet uses the \_\_\_\_contrast\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of sights and sounds to help to structure the poem. First she builds a picture of living on an island in the West Indies: *the sound of blue surf, the sun surfacing, the wild seabirds, the fishermen pushing out to sea,* etc. Then she contrasts this description with the phrases used to describe London: *the sands of a grey metallic soar, the surge of wheels, the dull North Circular roar.* This helps to paint a picture of two very different worlds.

The poet uses three poetic devices very effectively. In the first \_\_\_\_\_\_stanza\_\_\_\_\_, you notice the use of the real verb *breaking* and the invented verb *wombing*. These words suggest comfort and security because they make you think of \_\_\_childbirth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They suggest the island man gradually emerging from his soothing dream and into the real world...like a baby being born. It reflects him leaving the comfort of his familiar island and his origins or roots to live somewhere unfamiliar. The poet also uses colour very effectively to paint contrasting pictures of the Caribbean island and of London. At the beginning of the poem, the colours used to describe the Caribbean island are very \_\_\_\_bright\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For example, *blue surf* and *emerald island.* Towards the end of the poem, the colours used to describe London are very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_drab\_\_\_\_\_\_. For example, *grey metallic soar* and *dull North Circular.* This is effective because it provides a good contrast between the past and the present – between living in the West Indies and living in London. The colours provide clues about how the man feels: happy and full of life in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Caribbean\_\_\_\_\_\_; sad and depressed in \_\_\_\_\_\_London\_\_\_\_\_\_. The reader is left with the impression that the present life in London is a poor substitute for the Caribbean past.

Lastly, I would like to look at the use of repetition used in lines:

11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11-12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

16 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I think that the poet uses repetition to slow the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_pace\_\_\_\_\_ down. It allows the reader to focus on the implications of the man waking from his dream. It suggests that the man has to accept the daytime reality of living in London, but in his dreams he keeps alive the memories of living in the West Indies.

In conclusion, I think that the poem works very well. The reader is given an insight into what it must be like for an immigrant living in a new country. Surrounded by a different culture, emotional ties to your homeland remain and many happy \_\_\_memories\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are locked inside you.

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