

## Quiz 14

In the following poem, Kevin Hart reflects on the time when he was a boy  
Brisbane from a southern city.

### Brisbane

- I travelled to a city made of heat  
Where brown snakes slithered past a paw-paw tree.  
Our new house stood on stilts and creaked at night  
And thunder took the place of history.
- 5     Where brown snakes slithered past a paw-paw tree  
I sat and wrote my future in a daze.  
Huge thunder took the place of history  
And yet a *no* uncoiled within each *yes*.
- 9     I sat and wrote my future in a daze:  
And though the sun kept hammering my head,  
And though a *no* uncoiled within each *yes*,  
I listened hard for what is left unsaid.
- 13    And while the sun kept hammering my head  
The bright hours took my body, one by one.  
I listened hard for what is left unsaid,  
Convinced it called to me from far within.
- 17    So dark hours took my body, one by one,  
And played for all my future, all my past:  
Convinced it called to me from far within,  
I waited for a strangeness I could trust.
- 21    With all my future, and with all his past,  
My father claimed that city made of heat.  
I waited for a strangeness I could trust  
In a house that stood on stilts and creaked at night.

### Question 1

Lines 1–4 suggest that, when Hart first arrived in Brisbane, he felt

- |   |                         |   |                          |
|---|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| A | fearful and vulnerable. | C | excited and fascinated.  |
| B | shocked and overawed.   | D | relaxed and comfortable. |

### Question 2

The comment 'And thunder took the place of history' (line 4) implies that

- A Brisbane was defined by climate rather than by events.
- B The weather played an essential role in Brisbane's history.
- C Brisbane weather had all the drama and spectacle of history.
- D Brisbane, like a thunderstorm, was all noise and no substance.

### Question 3

Hart creates a 'chain of metaphor' by taking a feature of one object and associating it to an unrelated object; he then associates a feature of this unrelated object to a third object, and so on.

Below are five elements in this chain. 'Uncoiled' is a feature of 'snakes', and is associated to the unrelated object 'thunder'. The next two elements are represented by capital letters.

object	feature	object	feature	object
snakes	uncoiled	thunder	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>

Which word from the poem is represented by *X*?

- A daze
- B hammering
- C uncoiled
- D strangeness

### Question 4

Hart has carefully linked together the six four-line stanzas of this poem by picking out words and themes of one stanza and repeating them in the next stanza in a consistent way.

Assume that the lines of any two consecutive stanzas are numbered {1, 2, 3, 4} and {1, 2, 3, 4}.

Which of the following best represents the linkage scheme employed in this poem?

- A 1 → 2 and 4 → 3
- B 2 → 1 and 3 → 2
- C 3 → 4 and 1 → 2
- D 2 → 1 and 4 → 3



