

New School

Kevin McCann

1 In the playground corner
I stand and see:
Girls with skipping ropes,
Boys with footballs
And everyone shouts at once.

6 In the playground corner
I stand and see:
A teacher looking at his watch,
Cup of coffee in one hand
And a whistle in the other.

11 In the playground corner
I stand and see:
Big kids sharing jokes and sweets,
One skits our headmaster
And everyone knows everyone else.

16 In the playground corner
I stand on my own
And wish and wish
I could just go home.



Name:

Class:

Date:

1. Who is "I" in this poem?

2d

☐

1 mark

2. List **three** things you know are in the playground in the poem (apart from the children and the teacher).

2b

☐

3 marks

3. How do you know what time of day it is?

2b

☐

1 mark

4. "One skits our headmaster."

Suggest another way the poet could have said the same thing with the same meaning.

2a

☐

1 mark

5. "And everyone knows everyone else."

Why do you think the narrator included this information?

2f

☐

1 mark

6. Read the title of the poem. Is this a good title for the poem?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Give **one** reason from the poem to help explain your answer.

2c

☐

1 mark

7. What is the effect of starting most of the verses with the same two lines?

2f

☐

1 mark

8. Do you think the playground seems like a happy place for most of the children?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Explain your answer.

2d

☐

1 mark

9. How does the poet want you to feel about the narrator? Explain your answer.

2c

☐

2 marks