**Science – Development of Skills**

**Society and Environment/Analyze and Explain**

Answer each of the following questions on your own paper. Use full sentences and try to explain your thinking as best you can. There are no “right” or “wrong” answers. You just need to be sure to state your position for each as clearly as you can.

In class we watched part of a documentary film titled “Planet Earth II”, in which we saw how many different animals have adapted to the harsh conditions that come with living on islands. Some of the animals we were introduced to were: 1) pygmy three-toed sloths, 2) Komodo dragons, 3) Galapagos marine iguanas, 4) crabs on Christmas Island, 5) Fairy terns, 6) albatross and 7) a species of penguin.

It has been estimated that of all of the different species that have gone extinct (no longer living on Earth) in the recent past, 80% have lived on islands and humans have almost always been the cause (either directly or indirectly) of this extinction.

1. Tell me about which of the animals shown in this documentary you liked learning about the most and why you chose this animal. Value 4
2. Many tropical islands have become tourist destinations with cruise ship visits and resorts. Many invasive species have damaged the natural plants and animals found on these islands and have gotten there by catching rides in ships, planes, soil. Tell me your opinion on invasive species. Value 4
3. Some people have the opinion that it doesn’t really matter if some animals go extinct, because there are other types of animals that might take their place. Some people are the opposite and have the opinion that humans need to be the “caretakers” of the earth’s animals and that we should do everything we can to protect them from going extinct. What do you think about these two differing ways of thinking? Value 4
4. Create a map/drawing/cartoon/story about a pretend island located somewhere on the earth and tell me about one or two species of animals found on this island. In your description, include things like the climate, weather, types of plants and ways that the animal is adapted to the island. You can even include an invasive species! Value 8