Setting- The Island

The island is a place of wonder for the boys. To begin with they view it as a paradise; warm water, sun shining, areas to explore. As the novel progresses we see the island as a dangerous place, where even nature poses a threat to the safety of the boys.

For each of the following aspects of the island, find a quote and explain how it adds to the threatening nature of the island. You should pay particular attention to any imagery used to describe it.

* Fire
* Fruit
* Heat
* Storms
* Water
* Jungle
* Animals

‘All around him the long scar smashed into the jungle was a bath of heat.’

‘I can’t hardly move with all these creeper things.’

‘…scratched by thorns.’

‘Then he tripped over a branch and came down with a crash.’

‘Behind this was the darkness of the forest proper and the open space of the scar.’

‘The water was warmer than his blood…’

“Them fruit.” “I’ll be out again in just a minute-”

‘…enduring the sun’s enmity’

‘The one of the boys flopped on his face in the sand…’

‘…the jagged outline of the crags up towards the mountain.’

‘The great rock…leapt droning through the air and smashed a deep hole in the canopy of the forest…the forest further down shook as with the passage of an enraged monster…’

‘…the many buds were waxen green and folded up against the light. Jack slashed at one with his knife…’

‘…they heard the noises-squeakings- and the hard strike of hoofs on a path…its voice thin, needle-sharp…’