There Will Come Soft Rains

1. Reread lines 1-11. Which words and phrases tell you that the story is organized in chronological order?

2. Reread lines 14-20. Which story details suggest that this is an unusual day for the family?

3. Think about the setting of this story. What do you learn about the society from the house’s many automated features?

4. Reread lines 31-44. Based on the story details about the city, what do you think has happened?

5. Compare the actions of the dog with those of the house. What does the dog’s death suggest about the house?

6. What do the nursery’s furnishings tell you about the family and their relationship to the natural world?

7. What do you think is the theme, or main message of the poem?

8. How has the marking of time changed in the story? Explain.

9. What ideas about technology does Bradbury convey in the burning of the house?