

The Veldt

 by Ray Bradbury

1. What is the setting? Identify the futuristic elements of the setting.

2. There are five characters in the story. Name and describe them.

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

3. In “The Veldt,” author Ray Bradbury repeatedly uses personification to give human traits to the Happylife Home operating system. Find and write down two lines where personification is being used.

a)

b)

4. Early in the story, **what evidence** are we given that the Happylife Home system has not made either of the adults particularly happy? What message might Bradbury be trying to deliver here?

5. How does the nursery work?

6. Of all the worlds, both real and imaginary, that would appeal to children, why do you suppose Wendy and Peter chose to focus their attention on the African veldt? What’s the appeal?

7. Did Wendy change the room? Give evidence.

Name

Date

Hour

8. How much control do these parents have over their children? How do you know?

14. What advice does David McClean give George and Lydia? Do they follow it?

9. What is the problem that initiates the conflict?

15. What two items are found in the nursery? To whom do they belong to? Describe the conditions of the items.

10. What is the conflict? What type of conflict is this?

11. How has the nursery changed since the Hadley's first acquired it?

16. What major decision does George make?

12. What is the point of view of the story?

17. How do Wendy and Peter react to their fathers' decision?

13. When does George say the children's attitudes and behaviors began to change?

18. What do you think happened at the end of the story? Why?

Quotes

Read each of the following quotes and answer the questions that follow.

19. "They walked down the hall of their soundproofed Happylife Home, which has cost them thirty thousand dollars installed, this house which clothes and fed and rocked them to sleep and played and sand and was gone to them." **What is the home replacing?**

Name

Date

Hour

20. "But I thought that's why we bought this house, so we wouldn't have to do anything." **What does this tell you about the Dad?**

21. "Peter looked at his shoes. He never looked at his father any more, nor at his mother." **Why is this quote important? What does this suggest about Peter?**

Critical Thinking:

22. The Hadley's live a life of complete comfort and leisure in their HappyLife Home. **Does this existence bring them true happiness? Why? Explain.**

23. The Hadley's motto is, "Nothing's too good for the children." **Is this a good attitude for parents to have? How does it affect Peter and Wendy?**

24. It can be observed that the Hadley's have allowed the nursery to become a substitute father and mother to their children. **Does technology (iPods, iPads, Smartphones, YouTube, Netflix, video games...) play the same role in today's society? Why do parents permit such situations to occur?**

25. **What would be your reaction if you discovered that your parents had decided that your family's use of technology had gotten out of hand, and they had rid your home of all its technologies?**

Name

Date

Hour

Analyzing Literary Devices: Theme

27. There are several themes in “The Veldt.” What argument is being made about technology?

28. What is the author trying to say about family?

29. What do you think the overall theme is?

30. Do you think the theme is implied or stated? Explain.

31. Give three examples of clues that reveal the story’s theme:

Type of clue	Example from Story
Words	
Character’s Actions	
Ideas	

Analyzing Literary Devices: Irony

32. Comment on the irony of the father’s reaction that “they were awfully young, Wendy and Peter for death thoughts.”

33. Comment on the irony of the father’s reaction that “It’s supposed to help them work off their neurosis.”

34. Comment on the irony that the children’s names are Wendy and Peter.

35. Find another example of irony

Analyzing Literary Devices: Foreshadowing

Find three examples of foreshadowing in the text

Example from text	What is it foreshadowing?
36.	
37.	
38.	

Name

Date

Hour

Characterization

39. Choose one of the characters from the story:

Round or Flat? <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	Dynamic or Static <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	What is their motivation? <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	If applicable, find examples of <p style="text-align: center;">Direct Characterization</p> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
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Indirect Characterization		
Ways Character is revealed:	Examples From Text:	What is revealed about the character from this example:
Speech		
Thoughts		
Effects on Others		
Actions		

Name

Date

Hour

Characterization

40. Choose one of the characters from the story:

Round or Flat? <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	Dynamic or Static <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	What is their motivation? <i>Explain reasoning:</i>	If applicable, find examples of <p style="text-align: center;">Direct Characterization</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
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Name

Date

Hour

Rising Action: What events, conflicts build suspense or increase complications in the story

Climax: Turning Point

Falling Action: What **events** help wrap up the story?

Protagonist vs. Antagonist
_____ vs. _____

Conflict:

Inciting Incident: What event sets the plot into motion?

Exposition:
Setting:
Characters:
Situation:

Theme: What is the lesson of the story? Give evidence to support your theme.
Theme: _____

Evidence: _____

Resolution: How does the story end?

