

There Will Come Soft Rains

By Ray Bradbury

Setting

Identification &

Poem Analysis

Activities

Two classroom activities to
enhance your short story unit

The Daring
English
Teacher



Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: _____

There will come soft rains

Understanding Setting

Directions: As you read the story, keep a three-column chart that documents what time of day it is, what seems ordinary and usual during that time of day, and what seems unusual during that time of day. Keeping track of these details will help you understand the events.

The **setting of a story is the time and place in which the events of the story take place.**

In Ray Bradbury's short story "There Will Come Soft Rains," the setting of the story is very important because the story does not have any characters. Readers are relying solely on the setting and the plot.

Time of Day	What seems ordinary?	What seems Unusual?
7:00 am		
8:01 am		
9:15 am		
10:00 am		
10:15 am		

Make a Prediction! Based on the setting so far, make a prediction about what you think will happen in the story.

There will come soft rains
Understanding Setting

Time of Day	What seems ordinary?	What seems unusual?
Noon		
2:00 pm		
2:15 pm		
2:35 pm		
4:30 pm		
5:00 pm		
6/7/8:00 pm		
9:00 pm		
9:05 pm		
10:00 pm		

Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: _____

There will come soft rains

Directions: Using the hints and definitions on the right-hand side of the page, read and annotate the poem.

There Will Come Soft Rains

By Sara Teasdale, 1884 - 1933

(War Time)

There will come soft rains and the smell of the ground,

And swallows circling with their shimmering sound;

And frogs in the pools singing at night,

And wild plum trees in tremulous white,

Robins will wear their feathery fire

Whistling their whims on a low fence-wire;

And not one will know of the war, not one

Will care at last when it is done.

Not one would mind, neither bird nor tree

If mankind perished utterly;

And Spring herself, when she woke at dawn,

Would scarcely know that we were gone.

Definitions and Hints

Rhyme Scheme: At the end of each line, mark the poem's rhyme scheme using uppercase letters.

Alliteration: the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.

Highlight, circle, or underline all examples of alliteration.

Imagery: visually descriptive or figurative language, especially in a literary work

Identify the imagery in the poem.

Personification: a figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes.

Identify all examples of personification in the poem

Lack of Alliteration: Count how many lines contain alliteration and how many do not.

Lines with alliteration: _____

Lines without alliteration: _____

There Will Come Soft Rains

Poem and Short Story Analysis

Directions: After reading the short story and analyzing the poem, answer the following questions about the two in complete sentences.

Personification: A figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes

Theme: The central message of the story

Tone: The author's attitude toward the subject

Imagery: The use of vivid, descriptive language to paint a picture inside the reader's mind

1. Based on Ray Bradbury's tone in the short story, is technology more harmful or helpful for humanity?

2. Ray Bradbury uses a lot of personification in the story. Provide an example of personification from the story and explain how its use enhances the text.

3. One of the short story's theme is man versus technology. What do you think Ray Bradbury is trying to tell society with this short story?

4. Explain how the owner's favorite poem "There Will Come Soft Rains" by Sara Teasdale is related to the events and theme of the story.

5. Ray Bradbury uses a lot of imagery in the story. What are three excerpts from the story that contain imagery?
