

Thinking through the LITERATURE

Connect to the Literature

1. What Do You Think?

If you were to think back to this story in the days and weeks to come, what image do you think would most likely come to your mind?

Comprehension Check


- What unusual qualities and appliances does the house have?
- What has happened outside the house?
- What finally destroys the house?

Think Critically

2. Only as the story progresses do you learn something of what has happened outside the McClellan home. What effect do you think this delay creates?
3. What do you think has happened to the former inhabitants of the house?

THINK
ABOUT

- the announcements that the voice in the kitchen ceiling makes
- the duties the house performs
- the silhouettes on the side of the house

4. **ACTIVE READING** **VISUALIZING** Review the information you recorded in your  **READER'S NOTEBOOK**. What description led you to think that something very out of the ordinary had happened outside the home?

5. What effect does Bradbury create by including the Teasdale poem in his story?

THINK
ABOUT

- the message, or **theme**, of each selection
- the **settings** of the poem and story

Extend Interpretations

6. **What If?** Suppose the mechanical house were programmed to detect early signs of nuclear fallout. What warning do you think it might have issued, or what defensive action might it have taken?
7. **Connect to Life** Think about the discussion you had for Connect to Your Life, on page 86, about the benefits and dangers of technology. Has the story changed your opinion? Why or why not?