Ray Bradbury – The Veldt.

**Ray Douglas Bradbury** (August 22, 1920 – June 5, 2012) was an American [fantasy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fantasy), [science fiction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Science_fiction), [horror](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horror_fiction) and [mystery fiction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mystery_fiction) writer. Famous Works include: Fahrenheit 451 and the story that eventually was made into a film ‘The Wonderful Ice-Cream Suit.’

veldt - *noun* -open, uncultivated country or grassland in southern Africa. It is conventionally classified by altitude into highveld, middleveld, and lowveld. ORIGIN Afrikaans, from Dutch, literally ‘field.’

**Convenience:** Oxford Dictionary says – Freedom from effort or difficulty, a useful device or situation. **Convenient** – fitting in well with a person’s needs, activities and plans.

**Focus Question**: After brainstorming about the concept of ‘convenience,’ in your own opinion, explain **what you think is being lost in the achievement of ‘convenience?’**

**YOUR TASK:** Complete the following questions on a separate sheet of paper (with a partner) and **be prepared to share your best 2-3 answers with the class.**

1. Knowing what you know about **theme** (what the story is REALLY about**), what do you think Ray Bradbury is REALLY writing** about in ‘The Veldt?’
2. Describe the **setting** that the story ‘The Veldt’ takes place in?
3. Using a descriptive word…(possibly an adjective?), **what is the general mood in Veldt?**
4. How does the setting in ‘The Veldt’ contribute to the mood? Give an example from the text that contributes to the mood.
5. Ray Bradbury is known for being a quirky, often comic writer. Do you think that ‘The Veldt’ has a comic tone? If so, explain, if not,why?
6. What **point of view** does Ray Bradbury use to tell the story in ‘The Veldt?’

**Respond to the following quotes**:

1.) **Agree or disagree: “**Too much of anything isn’t good for anyone.” What is your reasoning, give one example that illustrates your perspective.

2.) **Explain the context** of the following quote: “Long before you knew what death was, you were wishing it on someone else.” Who says this to whom? Describe the situation.

1. **Using a dictionary** (you can use your smart phones if you’ve got one), lookup the word sarcasm and **define it**.

Is the following quote sarcastic? How do you know?

“Perhaps they needed a little vacation from the fantasy which was growing a bit too real for ten-year-old children.”

1. **OPINION:** What do you make of the psychologists observations?

**Bonus questions**:

**1.)Look up the word irony and define it.**

Is the following quote an example of irony, if so, why? If not, why?

“Matter of fact, we’re thinking of turning the whole house off for about a month. Live sort of a care-free existence.”

**2.)** Do you think that the ending was **foreshadowed** in any way earlier in the story, if so, where?