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.

1. What time of year is being described in the first six lines? Give an example from the poem to support your claim.
2. What is the mood of the first six lines?
3. What one word in line 7 causes a change in the subject of the poem?
4. In line 7, what does “one” refer to?
5. In line 10, what does “perished” mean? How do you know that?
6. What happens to the human race at the end of the poem? How did it happen?
7. What is the mood of lines 7 – 12?
8. What is the author’s tone?
9. What is the theme of this poem?
10. What do you think the author wanted you to do after reading this? Explain why.