

Answer questions 1–5, based on your reading of “Television’s Child.”

There is a distance between mother & son more than once in the poem.

1. The sense of **distance between mother and son** is first conveyed in the phrase
 - a. “slipped from the womb” (lines 1–2)
 - b. “sat him in a corner” (line 6)
 - c. “his ears echoed with voices” (lines 10–11)
 - d. “speaking always to someone else” (lines 12–13)

For some reason TV is affecting the boy’s development.

2. The **effect** of television on the boy’s development is **most appropriately** described as
 - a. exciting
 - b. enriching
 - c. paralyzing
 - d. patronizing

I have to watch how the word “cathode” is used in the poem to see what it “implies.”

3. **In context**, the use of the word “**cathode**” in lines 8 and 65, implies
 - a. the boy’s excitement builds when watching television
 - b. the boy is defiant because of what he watches on television
 - c. the television has had a negative effect on the boy’s development
 - d. the boy and his parents will become closer as a result of what they have learned

The poet uses a comparison (metaphor) to how TV affects the boy.

4. The use of **metaphor to illustrate the long-term effect of television on the boy** is **most dramatically** conveyed in which of the following lines?
 - a. “his parents plugged / his umbilical cord / into a living room outlet / and sat him in a corner” (lines 3–6)
 - b. “They didn’t worry, / for in their hectic days, / they needed their child to be / the way he was” (lines 27–30)
 - c. “From the first minute of silence, / the boy missed television” (lines 39–40)
 - d. “His mind was a scrapbook / of images that did not connect, / his present was simply / where he was now, and / his future was / empty of possibilities” (lines 54–59)

The two quotations must have a similar meaning, because of the use of “comparing” in the stem.

5. **By comparing** the phrase “his ears / echoed with voices / speaking always to / someone else” (lines 10–13) to the phrase “Oh, plug him in again!” (line 60), the poet reinforces the idea that, for the boy,
 - a. his communication with both the television and with his parents is passive
 - b. the only meaningful communication occurs when the boy watches television
 - c. his communication with both the television and with his parents is fulfilling
 - d. the only meaningful communication occurs when the boy is engaged in conversation with his parents