Ray Bradbury’s authentic and inventive story ‘The Veldt’ was written in the 1950s. Bradbury’s Sci-Fi story includes his prediction and warning of future technology and what dangers occur when it is over relied on. To convey this message, Bradbury places the Hadleys in the futuristic ‘happy life home’ which uses modern technology to do everything for the family. By doing this, we see what technology does to us and how dangerous it can be when people become fixated on it.

Bradbury’s key message is very important to us as his prediction matches today’s life. A main effect on the family in Bradbury’s story is that relationships are destroyed and as the happy life home reverses roles, detachment is inevitable. If technology is over relied on, families are prone to parting. Technology can also affect personalities of people as we see with the son Peter Hadley. Before technology he was a very innocent child but as he got involved with it, he takes drastic actions to acquire what he desires. Bradbury constantly warns us of what technology does to families throughout the whole story.

George and Lydia Hadley are very uncaring as they spoil their children to ironically, make life easier for them. George and Lydia are un-suitable parents as their reliance on technology leads them to forget about the importance of family. Lydia begins to feels un-wanted and worthless as she realises “the house is wife and mother now and nursemaid”. Bradbury uses a list here to show how unnecessary she now feels due to technology.

Bradbury uses the children’s names from ‘Peter Pan’ to symbolise the lack of boundaries and attention they receive from their parents, and due to this, they become corrupt and feel lost due to their perceived abandonment. Bradbury also makes us see that the children used to live a life where their surroundings added to ‘all the delightful contraptions of a make-believe world’. Yet, Technology begins to increasingly attract the children as their beloved nursery visualises anything or anywhere the children would like it to be. The attachment of the children to the nursery leads them to drastic actions when the parents try to separate them from it.

The children begin to tantrum when they do not get their own ways so Lydia and George give in so they don’t have to deal with their complaints. Ironically, this leads to them becoming ‘insufferable. Subsequently, the parents have to deal with constant screams coming from the nursery as every time the children are rejected, they imagine their parents being eaten by lions in an African veldt. George begins to smoke and drink more and feels the need to take sleeping tablets as the children’s fixation on death leads to the parents feeling concerned and anxious. The children and the technology manage to overrule and weaken George and Lydia gradually and we see the power it holds over all our lives.

The ‘Happy Life Home’ originally was supposed to improve life but instead, the house and its technology corrupts and breaks apart the family as it becomes more important. The nursery attracts the children and the more time they spend in it, they develop increasingly violent thoughts as it allows them to view what ever they desire; this includes seeing their parents brutally killed. This results in them becoming increasing detached and cold towards their parents so a psychologist is sent for. He analyses the children fully in only twenty minutes and realises the issue unlike the parents who are unable to. The psychologist becomes aware of the children’s threat towards their un-needed parents and so, their technological bond to the nursery has to be broken. Bradbury cleverly writes that the children ‘had a Santa Claus and now they have a Scrooge.’ Santa Claus represents that the parents used to be generous and spoil them, but in light of the psychologist’s analysis, they now have to be tough like Scrooge and lock the nursery for their own good.

Bradbury widens his use of techniques to convey the dangers of technology. Screams coming from the nursery are repeated to build up a sense of danger to the parents. The constant smells of the African grasslands symbolise danger to the parents as grasslands are full of human-eating predators. Bradbury uses symbolism and foreshadowing to convey the dangerous surroundings that the children make. A chewed wallet and bloody scarf give us a clue that as these possessions belong to he parents, it is obvious that something horrific will occur. Consequently, we discover that death will occur at some point in the story. Bradbury also personifies the house as it “clothed and fed and rocked them to sleep and played and sang and was good to them” to symbolise and foreshadow that the house could be dangerous as it is so powerful. The techniques used by Bradbury suggest that the technological house is extremely dangerous and inside it, death is occurring.

Bradbury’s use of techniques help us to see that technology has the power to destroy families and machines can replace human relationships. Bradbury creates an epiphany as George finally admits he does not understand “what prompted us to buy a nightmare? Pride, money, foolishness”. The home is referred to as a nightmare to symbolise the consequences of technology and to show how they cannot be fixed even though George now acknowledges them. Lydia believes that a final time visiting the nursery “can’t hurt.” The consequences are finally shown when the children kill their parents by letting them be eaten by the lions in the nursery. Bradbury’s twist acts as a warning to us about how badly technology can ruin us.

Bradbury’s techniques convey each of his key messages about the dangers of technology. ’The Veldt’ gives us a warning and chance to help prevent technological consequences. By the end of Bradbury’s perfect prediction, we see how fatal technology can be and what it will continue doing to us until something is done to stop it. Bradbury’s key message is successfully delivered as the reader can now be aware of how our technology today also separates and isolates us from those close to us.