

Read this poem. Then answer questions 36 through 37.

At Dusk

by Natasha Trethewey

At first I think she is calling a child,
my neighbor, leaning through her doorway
at dusk, street lamps just starting to hum
the backdrop of evening. Then I hear
5 the high-pitched wheedling we send out
to animals who know only sound, not
the meanings of our words—here here
— nor how they sometimes fall short.
In another yard, beyond my neighbor's
10 sight, the cat lifts her ears, turns first
toward the voice, the back
to the constellation of fireflies flickering
near her head. It's as if she can't decide
whether to leap over the low hedge,
15 the neat row of flowers, and bound
onto the porch, into the steady circle
of light, or stay where she is: luminous
1 possibility—all that would keep her
away from home—flitting before her.
20 I listen as my neighbor's voice trails off
. She's given up calling for now, let me
to imagine her inside the house waiting,
perhaps in a chair in front of the TV,

or walking around, doing small tasks
25 le□ me to wonder that I too might li□
my voice, sure of someone out there,
send it over the lines stitching here
to there, certain the sounds I make
are enough to call someone home.

luminous: filled with light

36. How do the poet's word choices in line 1 through 8 of "At Dusk" establish the mood of the poem? Use two details from the poem to support the response?

37. In "at Dusk" how does the shift that begins on line 21 affect the meaning of the poem? Use two details from the poem to support your response.
