You may consult with a partner in answering these questions

1) Literally, what purpose does this poem serve? Why did Burns write it? What did he do to the Mouse?

2) What does Burns mean “man’s dominion has broken nature’s social union”?

3) What does Burns thank about the Mouse being a thief?

4) THE BIG QUESTION: What does Burns mean by “the best laid schemes ‘o mice an’ men gang aft agley”?

5) What is significant about the video clip at 1:50?

6) At the end of the poem, who does Burns decide is better off? Burns or the Mouse? Why?