1. Does Cavendish think humans are the best, most important, most capable or most perfect things in nature? Offer any one line from the reading (pp. 5 - 13 / Ch. 2- Ch 13) where you think she answers this question. (There are many options). Don’t worry about “what I want” for this question, what other people are writing, or what the “right answer” is. As always, when you type answers in this class, show that you did the reading, got curious about the details, etc.
2. On p. 8, she wonders whether technology will ever be able "to make men live..." how? [just complete that sentence]. (b) In your view, has any technology ever achieved this, even temporarily? If not, why do you think we are so impressed by technology? If so, give your example and state how you think it accomplished what Cavendish described in (a).
3. Read Ch. 16 carefully. At the page-turn from 12-13, she argues that it doesn't make sense to say nature has emotional intents or behaviors, such as the will to "assault" or behave "amiably."

(a) How does she interpret the actions of nature? HINT: just look for the words she offers as a replacement for "assaults" and "amiable associations."

(b) Does she think anything or anyone at all has control over nature? Explain.

(c) Have you ever heard someone saying nature's actions were somehow intentional? What did you think about this? If you have never heard such a thing, then, how would you respond to someone who did say that nature behaves with an intent of some sort?

1. Cavendish holds that there is no such thing as a truly independent, isolated, distinct, individual “part” in nature.
2. What’s her evidence? Choose any one line from the reading, or a particular phrase, that captures this evidence and quote it.

(b) How does this relate to a specific claim or line from either of our previous two readings?

1. Her material physical system is often called “vitalism.” Which line or phrase seems to you to suggest a “vitality” within material? Quote it. Explain how the line you chose suggests that matter is in some way “living.” (Don’t announce whether you agree or disagree, you’re just reporting on the text, and explicating it for this one).