

✕ Refers to links on www.crossref-it.info

Investigating *Earth's Answer*

- ❖ Look back at the poem
Introduction (E)
 - How do you understand the figure of God conveyed there?
 - Do you find Earth persuasive in her complaints?
 - This isn't a matter of being right or wrong but of being able to form an opinion that you can support with some reasons. You will need to think about this, perhaps reading and thinking about the other sections dealing with this poem and then return to it.

Investigating language and tone

- ❖ Try reworking the rhetorical questions used in the poem so that they are statements instead
 - Do they have the same impact?
 - What is different about the tone and mood?

Investigating structure and versification

- ❖ What effect does the absence of punctuation in the second stanza have?
- ❖ What difference would you find if you made lines 3 and 4 into one line?

Investigating imagery and symbolism

- ❖ Modern ideas about male and female roles are very different from those in Blake's time
 - How do you think a modern reader responds to the personification of the earth as a woman?

Investigating themes

- ❖ Compare the use of the themes of
 - How the human mind sees the nature of the world and its creator
 - Attitudes to the body and the life of the senses with their use in *The Lamb*.