

✕ Refers to links on [www.crossref-it.info](http://www.crossref-it.info)

### **Investigating *The Lilly***

- ❖ Do you think it would be possible to understand this poem if you knew nothing of Blake's beliefs?
- ❖ Do you think this is a drawback in appreciating his poetry?

### **Investigating language and tone**

- ❖ What are the conventional connotations of 'stain' and how does Blake employ it here?

### **Investigating structure and versification**

- ❖ Does the predictability of the rhyming couplets make you as a reader more, or less, inclined to accept the argument of the poem?

### **Investigating imagery and symbolism**

- ❖ What do you think of when you read those terms 'rose', 'sheep' and 'lily'?
  - In what way do they differ from Blake's use?

### **Investigating themes**

- ❖ Compare the use of the theme of the effects of the Fall here and in *My Pretty Rose Tree*.