

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

Investigating The Voice of the Ancient Bard

- ❖ This poem has puzzled critics
 - Can you think of what has puzzled you about it?
 - Is there anything in the commentary below that answers any of these puzzles?
 - ✕ <http://crossref-it.info/textguide/songs-of-innocence-and-experience/13/1637>

Investigating structure and versification

- ❖ Why do you think Blake patterned the poem the way he did?
 - Is it important for the form of a poem to reflect its meaning?
 - How successful do you think the form is here?

Investigating imagery and symbolism

- ❖ What does awareness of the significance of the maze and the hidden image of the tree add to your understanding of this poem?
 - ✕ <http://crossref-it.info/textguide/songs-of-innocence-and-experience/13/1639>

Investigating themes

- ❖ Blake moved this poem from the *Songs of Innocence*
 - For what reasons do you think its themes make it appropriate as a *Song of Experience*?
- ❖ How far would you agree with the critics who believe it is a summing-up of all the *Songs of Experience*?
 - What do you think are Blake's themes and intentions in writing this sequence of poems?