

Investigate!

Hopkins: *The Wreck of the Deutschland*: Going deeper, Stanzas 6-10

❖ Stanza 6:

- What do 'stars and storms' represent?
- Can you see the force of the phrase 'flushed by'?
- Do you see any link between stanzas 5 and 6?

❖ Stanza 7:

- What do the words 'discharge' and 'swellings' suggest?
- What is the significance of 'high flood'?
- Can you see any parallelism building up to Part II?

❖ Stanza 8:

- Look at the soft internal rhymes ending in -sh. Most are monosyllabic.
 - What is the effect of the sound of them on the sense?
- 'flush' echoes 'flushed' of stanza 6.
 - What are the meanings of the word?
- What are the meanings of 'stroke'.
- Why does Hopkins employ so many words with multiple meanings?

- Is he really being deliberately ambiguous?

❖ Stanza 9:

- How can God's love be, paradoxically, 'a winter and warm'?
- Can you find some other examples of paradoxical language in this stanza?

❖ Stanza 10:

- Bring out the contrasting sets of words which accompany each image and example.
 - Does the concept of 'mastery' fit both sets?
- Overall, in Part the First, what is the predominant emphasis?
- Which stanzas or lines have you found most memorable so far?