

## The Tyger"

1. Whom or what is the poet addressing?
2. Which Song of Innocence is equivalent to this poem?
3. In the first line of the poem, "Tyger! Tyger! burning bright" there is both repetition and alliteration. What sound effect do they create?
4. What impression does Blake create by describing the Tyger as "burning bright"?
5. Are images of light or fire used anywhere else in the poem?
6. Why does the poet use this structure interrogative?
7. From which trade or craft is the imagery in the fourth stanza taken?
8. Is the theme of the poem what you expected from the title?
9. Which parts of the Tyger are mentioned? What are they like? Is the description given in the poem the description of: a real animal? of certain parts of a real animal? of the "essence" of the Tyger? Explain your response.
10. Explain the significance of the last line of the first stanza "did he who made the Lamb make thee"?
11. At which point in his version of the history of the world do you think this took place?
12. What emotional progression does the poem imply in the speaker's contemplation of the Tyger?
13. What is the answer to the question in line 20, "Did he who made the lamb make thee?" Why does the speaker need to ask the question? Who is "he," i.e. the lamb's creator?
14. What is the significance of the poem's references to "fire," "burning," and the "furnace"? What does fire often symbolize?
15. Search for an engraving of the plate Blake created for this poem. Describe the Tyger's attributes. What sort of "tiger" is this that Blake has engraved? What effect does the odd spelling "tyger" create?