

DEBATES

LANYER and MARVELL

PEER TO PEER TEACHING

TODAY we will be TEACHING EACH OTHER.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- PRACTICE close reading;
- APPLY concepts as tools to aid in close reading;
- WORK in groups;
- SHARE findings;
- RESPOND to the work of your peers.

THE PLAN

- The class will be divided in half:
 - Lanyer: "Eve's Apology"
 - Marvell: "Dialogue Between the Soul and the Body"
- You will decide among you how to divide the labour/answer the questions provided;
- You will RECORD your responses;
- You will PRESENT your findings to the other half of the class;
- You will ENGAGE with the findings of the other half of the class by asking questions and offering insights.

Marvell: "Dialogue" Soul vs. Body

WHAT: What metaphors do the soul and the body use to describe their relationship to each other? Are these metaphors of the same quality?

Consider:

- The "dungeon" (1) body as compared to "tyrannic soul" (12);
- "magic" (21) versus "physic" (31);
- The echoing of ll.21-22 in ll.31-32.

SO WHAT: What is the nature of the "torment" that afflicts the body and soul?

Marvell: "Dialogue" Doubled Meaning

WHAT: What does the word "feeling" mean in this poem? The soul says: "I feel, that cannot feel, the pain" (24) of the body. Is the same true for the body?

SO WHAT: What is the significance of the doubled meaning of words like "feel" and "heart" and references to the senses such as seeing and hearing, and actions such as standing? What does this doubled meaning tell us about the relationship between the soul and the body?

Lanyer: "Eve's Apology" Knowledge

WHAT: How does Lanyer define the relative nature of women's and men's access to knowledge?

Consider:

- God's edicts given to Adam (43, 47, 62) vs. the serpents arguments given to Eve
- The echo of l. 11 in l. 60;
- The way that the speaker resembles Eve in offering her husband knowledge.

SO WHAT: What does this representation of the dissemination of knowledge tell us about the relative responsibilities of women and men?

COMPETING DISCOURSES

DISCOURSE: a use of language unified by common focus, vocabulary, concepts and typical contexts of usage.

EG. "medical discourse"; "literary discourse"

COUNTER-DISCOURSE: a use of language that appropriates the vocabulary and typical contexts of a discourse for the purposes of "speaking against" that discourse.

Lanyer: "Eve's Apology" Strength in Weakness?

WHAT: How does Lanyer use the idea of WEAKNESS in the poem?

Consider especially the last 2 verses.

SO WHAT: What is the function and the significance of COUNTER DISCOURSE in Lanyer's poem? What does she accomplish by deploying the discourse of weakness?
