

AE2

What is the 'strange news' that everybody is talking about at the beginning of chapter 4?

The 'strange news' is that one of the stars in the sky is changing. It is getting bigger.

AE3

Why did the people of Earth tremble and weep and pray to God?

The people are afraid and they want God to save them from the space-bat-angel-dragon that has landed.

AE4

There are very few named characters in this chapter. Instead Hughes writes about 'people', 'kings', 'presidents' and 'ministers'. What effect does this have?

It shows that there are many kings, presidents and ministers, too many to mention and that everyone is having to work together.

AE5

Why do you think Hughes chooses to repeat the word 'terribly' so often as he describes the space-bat-angel-dragon landing on Australia?

Ted Hughes repeats the word 'terribly' to emphasise and exaggerate how scary and awful the space-bat-angel-dragon is.

AE6

How do you feel when you read about the space-bat-angel-dragon?

(individual responses)