This is a Class 3 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and Girls

Lebanon Evangelical School

for Boys and Girls Loueizeh - Baabda

Stage Exam 02

26MAR2025

Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here.

Subject :	A Level : English 2
Class :	12A
Teacher :	Miss Jovana
Duration :	1 hour

A clean copy of the poems is required.

You are to answer the questions to this exam on : Lined paper

Your name :		*Time taken to complete exam*
Your Class :		
Exam Room :		
How many sheets, including cover sheet :		

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.

Prescribed Text: English Romantic Verse

Read the poem *Holy Thursday*, by William Blake, beginning 'Is this a holy thing to see?' on page 9 of the Source Booklet.

Explore the ways in which unhappiness is presented in this poem and **one** other poem from your prescribed list.

In your answer, you must consider relevant contextual factors.

Total for Question = 25 Marks

SE02 12A BAREM

Question Number 12	Indicative Content
	Prescribed text: *English Romantic Verse*, editor David Wright An appropriate choice to accompany *Holy Thursday* might be *Stanzas Written in Dejection, near Naples* by Percy Bysshe Shelley. Candidates may refer to the following in their answers: • both poems feature a state of unhappiness that is in sharp contrast to the setting: the deprived children in *Holy Thursday* live, despite their poverty, in a rich and fruitful land; the persona in Shelley's poem finds himself in despair despite the warm weather and the beauty of the sea and city • Blake's poem makes the point that the children's unhappiness is man-made and therefore it is an attack on society - it is a political poem; Shelley's poem appears to be about himself and his own personal unhappiness. The language of the two poems reflects this difference: the rhetoric and polysyndeton in Blake's poem contrasts with the repeated use of the first-person pronoun in Shelley's • Blake's poem is characterised by an apparently simple form - four stanzas of four lines each with lines of alternating tetrameter and trimeter - but the variations in rhythm for emphasis make for subtle changes within this structure; the

alexandrines at the end of each stanza in Shelley's poem break up the regular rhythm and emphasise the persona's disturbed state of unhappiness

- both poems make use of ideas drawn from religion: Blake questions the holiness of the sight of poverty and the exploitation of the poor that he sees in front of him; Shelley laments that in his isolation, surrounded by nature, he lacks the content that the meditating sage would find
- both poets stand apart from the rest of society: Blake's poem is clearly an attack both on a society that has allowed poverty to flourish and the Church's hypocrisy; Shelley, too, feels at odds with a society that smiles and is happy with life, perhaps implying that he has deeper insight
- in the time of the Industrial Revolution both these poets explore nature as something away from the general concerns of society and enlist images of nature to underscore emotion: Blake uses winter as a metaphor to describe poverty, whereas Shelley uses the natural beauty of the setting as a contrast to his own unhappiness
- some answers may argue that although both poems feature unhappiness, what comes across most clearly is an idea of potential happiness: Blake's poem ends on a positive note, saying wherever the sun shines there can never be poverty, and Shelley admits the glory of nature will continue, even though he himself might not be there to enjoy it.

These are suggestions only. Accept any valid alternative responses.