



Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
EDUCATION

DIRECTORATE SENIOR CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT (SEN-FET)

HOME SCHOOLING SELF-STUDY WORKSHEET ANSWER SHEET

SUBJECT	English HL	GRADE	12	DATE	May 2020
TOPIC	Poem: The Garden of love	TERM 1 REVISION	(Please tick)	TERM 2 CONTENT	(Please tick) √
MEMORANDUM	<p><u>Question 1</u></p> <p>1.1 The reader will expect the speaker to enter an area/state of being that is open, free and beautiful. It is a place of peace and tranquility. /The allusion to the Biblical Garden of Eden creates the expectation of spiritual perfection and natural beauty. [Award 2 marks for one well discussed idea.] (2)</p> <p>1.2 The Chapel should have offered a joyful experience. However, the speaker is indicating how the Chapel and, by implication, organised religion has intruded on his pleasant, carefree childhood memories. The line indicates Blake's disapproval of the invasive and destructive nature of authoritarian religion. [Award 2 marks for two relevant and distinct points.] (2)</p> <p>1.3 The words, 'gates' and 'shut' have connotations of restriction and loss of free will. In addition, they suggest a lack of welcome. The admonition, 'Thou shalt not' alludes to the Old Testament/Ten Commandments which forbade certain behaviours and reinforced the sense of restriction. This accounts for the speaker's indignant/angry/disappointed/dismayed tone.</p>				

[Award 3 marks only if tone is discussed.]

(3)

1.4 Instead of life flourishing ('flowers'), the garden is now associated with death as it is filled with 'graves' and 'tomb-stones'. The priests in black gowns are like sinister figures on patrol. These lines reflect the speaker's criticism of authoritarian religion's depriving one of joy. He sees such religion as cruelly restrictive ('binding with briars my joys and desires') of individual freedom and fulfillment.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas/interpretations well discussed.]

(3)

[10]

Question 2

TITLE: The title proves to be ironic. Initially it creates the expectation that the poem will be a love poem; that it will describe the delights of a literal or figurative garden, but it is not. It is the opposite. Thus the irony of the title creates the sombre mood of the poem.

IMAGERY: The poem has three stanzas. There is a development in each one. In the first stanza, the speaker returns to a 'green' garden in which he 'used to play'. It suggests pleasant times, even Innocence. In the second stanza the garden has been replaced with a forbidding 'Chapel'. Its doors are 'shut' and no entry is allowed into the Chapel. The green garden has been replaced by a Chapel that cannot be entered. Figuratively, the freedom of the garden has been restricted by the Chapel's presence. The image of a chapel that instructs 'Thou shalt not' suggests that the Church has become hostile; it no longer provides a 'green garden'. The mood changes from a pleasant one to one of enmity. In the last stanza, the images of 'graves', 'tomb-stones', and 'black gowns' are in direct contrast to the 'green garden' of the first stanza. The priests in 'black gowns' are ominous and threatening. Instead of 'sweet flowers' there are now 'binding ... briars' that cause pain. The presence of the Chapel and the Priests has created a malevolent mood.

PUNCTUATION: The use of capital letters in the first stanza shows that the Garden probably is a reference to the Garden of Eden; it is a figurative garden that has familiar connotative, ambiguous meanings. The Chapel that has replaced the Garden is also capitalised - it indicates the Church and her powers rather than a small place of worship. The phrase 'Thou shalt not.' ends in a full stop in the middle of the line to highlight the finality of the command. The use of capital letters and the full stop in the middle of the line add to the stifling mood; the church will not allow freedom such as a garden would give a child in which to play. That innocence is

	prohibited, [10]	which	helps	create	an	oppressive	mood.
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