Cambridge Assessment International Education

# Cambridge IGCSE™

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH** **0475/42**

Paper 4 Unseen **February/March 2024**

**1 hour 15 minutes**

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

*7536755567*

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Answer **one** question: **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is 25.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.


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You are advised to spend about 20 minutes reading the question paper and planning your answer.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

**Either**

**1** Read carefully the following poem. The poet is writing about the time when her daughter has left home in order to study.

**How does the poet memorably convey her feelings about her daughter leaving home?**

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- how she portrays the house and her daughter's room
- how the poet conveys her feelings when her daughter returns and then leaves again
- how she conveys her feelings in the final section of the poem.

*Empty Nest*

Dear child, the house pines when you leave.
I research whether there is any bird who grieves
over its empty nest.

Your vacant room
is a still-life framed by the unclosed door;
read by sunlight, an open book on the floor.

I fold the laundry; hang your flower dress
in darkness. Forget-me-nots[1].

*

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Beyond the tall fence, I hear horse-chestnuts[2]
counting themselves.
Then autumn; Christmas.
You come and go, singing. Then ice; snowdrops[3].

Our home hides its face in hands of silence.

I knew mothering, but not this other thing
which hefts[4] my heart each day. Heavier.
Now I know.

*

This is the shy sorrow. It will not speak up.
I play one chord on the piano;
it vanishes, tactful,
as dusk muffles the garden; a magpie staring from its branch.
The marble girl standing by the bench.

From the local church, bells like a spelling.
And the evening star like a text.
And then what next …

[1]*forget-me-nots*: small blue flowers
[2]*horse-chestnuts*: species of tree which drops hard seed cases
[3]*snowdrops*: white flowers that bloom in winter
[4]*hefts*: heaves up

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**Or**

**2** Read carefully the following extract from a novel. The narrator is travelling on horseback across a remote desert region. He is accompanied by a small group of men and 'the girl'. One morning, a storm approaches.

**How does the writer vividly convey a sense of danger?**

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- how he portrays the approach of the storm
- his description of the storm and the reactions of the travellers
- how he conveys the impact that the storm has on them.

Rolling down upon us over the snowy plain is a gigantic black wave.

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My voice rasps from my throat: ‘Come, men, let us load.’

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