



Cambridge IGCSE™

WORLD LITERATURE

Paper 2 Unseen Poetry

0408/23

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1 hour 15 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- 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 30.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

- 1 Read carefully the following poem in which a mother describes opening a flower-press with her young daughter.

The Flower-Press

We bend over my old flower-press, mother and young daughter, you full of excitement and chatter, me nervous as I open it after its years of dust-gathering on the shelf.	5
In here we discover the fastened flowers, the originals I remember placing carefully between the sheets of green blotting paper, fragments to me now, ghosts of flowers, the pressure has been too great for their lives to bear.	10 15
Dry, frail, faded, each leaf, petal and frond; I lay them one by one on your own hand. Gathered and preserved from the years before you were born, to me these flowers are flawed.	20
For me their place has been taken by you, my own flower, ever-growing, changing. Am I right to warn you of their imperfections? Should I try to show you how lives may be grasped, and like these flowers shut in, immobilized? Or am I bringing you too soon word of corruption, too much stillness?	25 30
No matter, for you are not listening. With bright eyes you say, 'aren't they beautiful, can I press some too?' Seeing only the beauty. So like pure air reaching into areas long since sealed off, now reclaimable, you lead me forward without fear.	35
Deeper and deeper you draw me into life, you make the dead come alive again by sensing how even the shadow of a flower may be perfect and so suffice.	40

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|---|------|
| (a) How does the poet strikingly convey her thoughts about the pressed flowers? | [15] |
| (b) How does the poet vividly convey her feelings about her daughter? | [15] |

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