



Cambridge IGCSE™

WORLD LITERATURE

0408/02

Paper 2 Unseen Poetry

For examination from 2022

SPECIMEN PAPER

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. Blank pages are indicated.

Question 1 Read carefully the poem which describes the morning newspaper being delivered to the poet's apartment.

The Man Who Delivers My Paper

In the half light, while one world
is tearing away from another,
he comes down the hall, laboriously,
as if knee-deep in water.

He leaves at my door the one 5
gift he can give:
the weather, stock reports,
the death of a stranger,
a child tossed into the rapids,
assassins, rumors, 10
rumblings in Santiago,
a woman who had one too many,
a man who missed by a hair.

He sets it down gently 15
as if it were a newborn
or a thing he made with his hands
like a bomb.

Something passes over my dreams
dropping its shadow. 20
He goes with a lighter step than before.
It's as if he's clearing his conscience.
With each paper he leaves
he grows sweeter, more pure.

When I open the door there it is — 25
indisputably mine.
I could nudge it with my foot
to another door, but what good would that do?
One way or the other
news keeps reaching me.
I could shut myself in, but my phone 30
would never stop ringing.
Voices would whisper
their secrets, their guilty desires.

So I take it in my hands, 35
unstring and read it,
my catalog of last night's crimes.
You see? Just when you think you've lost
the last of your innocence,
you lose more.

- (a) How does the poet strikingly convey her thoughts and feelings about the delivery man and the newspaper? [15]
- (b) How does the poet convey the effect the news has on her? [15]

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