

Cambridge IGCSE™

WORLD LITERATURE

Paper 2 Unseen Poetry

0408/22**May/June 2026****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.

Question 1

Read carefully the poem in which poet describes their feelings about the loss of someone they loved.

The sound of your name

The city is silenced, holding its breath
as if it is waiting for something to shift,
for summer to become summer
in a month battered by winds, set adrift,

and the sky inconsolable, weeping.

5

Our hearts' climate has changed
to winter. We are bereft¹.
But grief makes believers even of those
who would not believe. We lift

up our heads to seek the reprieve,

10

the green song in the trees. We picture you
strong, walking ahead of us into the sun,
turning to look at us, leading the way
as you always did. Grief gives this gift,

the belief that you do not stop

15

but walk on in our love and grow on
in the children. They will play you back to us,
that voice, that laugh. You will be there
on the sound track when we celebrate,

you will be present in our conversation.

20

Even those of us who do not believe
will believe, when the trees take a breath
that sounds like your name
whispered into our hearts' great microphone.

The season will change and we will give thanks
that we knew you.

25

We will know you in any season,
winter or summer, summer or winter,
and we will have reason

to believe that you do not stop.

30

¹ *bereft*: feeling great loss

- (a) How does the poet movingly reveal grief in lines 1–15? [15]
- (b) How does the poet powerfully convey hope for the future in lines 14–30? [15]

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