



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

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Paper 4 Unseen

May/June 2025

1 hour 15 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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.

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 poem on page 3 in which the poet addresses someone she once loved.

How does the poet vividly portray this relationship?

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- how she portrays the early stage of their relationship
- how her imagery conveys the way their relationship developed
- how she sees herself now.

From Shore to Shore

Your first kiss carried me gently away
like the lulling of waves on the shore-
a distant shore, where perhaps lovers strolled
and laughed. I don't remember any more.

I launched into your ocean of promises,
lifted by the swell and the sigh of the tide
over sharp and fragile corals to open water,
tumbling in love's current, drawn to your side-

-drawn, till becalmed, far beyond that first
shore,
where your flat leaden sea left my soul
weighed with tears;
drifting, parched silent by salt in the sun,
I clung to the debris of happier years.

Now breakers¹ crash on the opposite shore,
smash me to make me accommodating sand –
your tide ebbs² and leaves me alone once more
as strange gold, edging a foreign land.

¹ *breakers*: large sea waves

² *ebbs*: flows away

Or

- 2 Read carefully the following opening from a novel. On a hot summer's day, a teenage girl is standing on the driveway to a convent. Exhausted and feeling ill, she is looking for help. After the nuns find her, they call her Dolores.

How does the writer make the girl and her situation so intriguing?

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- what the girl sees and feels outside the convent
- how the girl responds to the nun
- how the writer portrays the girl's first night in the dormitory.

The convent¹ was beyond the statue, at the top of the hill.

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She climbs back into bed and closes her eyes.

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