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Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH **0475/42**

Paper 4 Unseen **October/November 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.

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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 poem on page 3. It is written by a young poet who became a soldier in the Second World War.

How does the poet portray himself in this poem?

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- how he portrays the ways in which war has changed him
- how he conveys his fears
- the ways in which he creates a powerful impression on the reader.

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3

War Poet

I am the man who looked for peace and found
My own eyes barbed[1].
I am the man who groped for words and found
An arrow in my hand.
I am the builder whose firm walls surround
A slipping land.
When I grow sick or mad
Mock me not nor chain me;
When I reach for the wind
Cast me not down
Though my face is a burnt book
And a wasted town.

[1]*barbed*: sharply spiked

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Or

2 Read carefully the following extract from a novel set in an imaginary future. Most of the USA has become a religious dictatorship called Gilead. There are very limited rights for women. The narrator, Lydia, is explaining how she was forced to surrender to male domination.

How does the writer make this such a disturbing moment in her novel?

To help you answer this question, you might consider:

- the women's shocked responses at the start of the extract
- the arrival and attitudes of the armed men
- the reactions of Lydia and the other women to the developing situation.

'We need to get out of the country.

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She was shivering with terror.

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