**5. Literature Paper 2: Section C – Unseen Poetry**

**27.1. In ‘Blessing,’ how does the poet present ideas about poverty and wealth? [24 marks]**

**Blessing**

The skin cracks like a pod.

There never is enough water.

Imagine the drip of it,

the small splash, echo

in a tin mug,

the voice of a kindly god.

Sometimes, the sudden rush

of fortune. The municipal pipe bursts,

silver crashes to the ground

and the flow has found

a roar of tongues. From the huts,

a congregation: every man woman

child for streets around

butts in, with pots,

brass, copper, aluminium,

plastic buckets,

frantic hands,

and naked children

screaming in the liquid sun,

their highlights polished to perfection,

flashing light,

as the blessing sings

over their small bones.

*Imtiaz Dharker*

* Spend 30 minutes answering the question.
* Analyse the language used in the poem.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**27.2. In both ‘Blessing’ and ‘Poverty’, the poets discuss inequality. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present their feelings about poverty? [8 marks]**

**Poverty**

The only people I ever heard talk about my Lady Poverty

Were rich people, or people who imagined themselves rich.

Saint Francis himself was a rich and spoiled young man.

Being born among the working people

I know poverty is a hard old hag,

and a monster, when you’re pinched for actual necessities.

And whoever says she isn’t is a liar.

I don’t want to be poor, it means I’m pinched.

But neither do I want to be rich.

When I look at this pine-tree near the sea,

That grows out of rock, and it plumes forth, plumes forth,

I see it has a natural abundance.

With its roots it has a natural grip on its daily bread,

And its plumes look like a green cup held up to the sun and air

And full of wine.

I want to be like that, to have a natural abundance

And plume forth, and be splendid.

*D. H. Lawrence*

* Spend 15 minutes answering question.
* Compare ideas across both poems.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………