

## TASK 2

**UNSEEN POETRY:** The following question is COMPULSORY.

### QUESTION 5: CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

#### **AUTUMN – Douglas Ridley Beeton**

1 Patterns of old green-gold trees,  
2 Patterns of aloes dipped in blood;  
3 The khaki veld hums, a long singing  
4 Late-noon dream. And I shall come  
  
5 Up to the house and its purple shades,  
6 And talk to my father, and he will  
7 Tell me of the world that has been,  
8 And I shall tell him of the world  
  
9 That will come, and he will tell me  
10 That it is wrong, wrong, and I  
11 Shall think that he is wrong, old and wrong.  
12 But when I emerge into the khaki veld  
  
13 And feel the fine air stabbing out at me,  
14 And the night that is sweeping up  
15 Across the world, I shall sometimes  
16 Think that he is right, young and right.

- 5.1 How does the description of the landscape in the first stanza support the title of the poem? (2)
- 5.2 Refer to lines 3–4: 'The khaki veld hums, a long singing/Late-noon dream.'  
Explain how these lines convey the mood of the first stanza. (2)
- 5.3 Refer to line 13: 'And feel the fine air stabbing out at me'.  
Comment on the effectiveness of the image in this line. (3)
- 5.4 By referring to the poem as a whole, discuss the change in the speaker's attitude toward his father. (3)

**[10]**