



**ST CLEMENT'S HISTORY DEPT.**

**GUIDE TO SOURCES**

**9-1 GCSE**

**ENVIRONMENT STUDY:**

**BRITISH SECTOR OF THE WESTERN FRONT: TRENCHES**

[WWW.STCHISTORY.COM](http://www.stchistory.com)

# Q1 = [4 MARKS]

## DESCRIBE TWO FEATURES OF...

### FEATURE 1

Identify the first feature you will be talking about...

"One feature of [write the words of the question - this will keep you focused on the actual question] is ... [eg: The Frontline Trench is designed for a quick attack...]"

Add extra detail / knowledge about the Frontline Trench

### FEATURE 2

Identify the second feature you will be talking about...

"A second feature of [write the words of the question - this will keep you focused on the actual question] is ... [eg: zig zag design of the trenches...]"

Add extra detail / knowledge about the Frontline Trench

## EG: DESCRIBE TWO FEATURES OF CASUALTY CLEARING STATIONS

One feature of the Casualty Clearing Stations was that they needed to be close enough to the frontline to be able to deal quickly with the wounded, but far enough away to have some protection from shelling.

A second feature of the Casualty Clearing Stations was the use of a triage system which was used to divide the wounded into groups. Those who were not likely to survive would only be made comfortable, but not treated, these were known as the 'walking dead', there was also the 'walking wounded' and 'those in need of hospital treatment'.

### Stats about the CCS during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres:

- There were 24 CCS in the Ypres Salient
- 379 doctors and 502 nurses treated 200,000 +
- 30% of the soldiers were operated on
- 3.7% of the men admitted died c.7500

# 5 MINS MAX

# Q2A: [8 MARKS]

## HOW USEFUL ARE SOURCES A & B FOR AN ENQUIRY INTO...

### CRITERIA

Before you begin making a judgement, you need to come up with the criteria you're judging it against.

#### CONTENT

What do the sources actually tell you? Is there facts & detail that you can learn from?

#### PROVENANCE

What is the sources Nature, Origin & purpose? How might NOP affect usefulness?

#### CONTEXT

How do the sources fit in to what you already know? Are the sources... (CAT Test them)

### COMPREHENSIVE, ACCURATE, TYPICAL

Does it have limitations or missing information?

Does it match what you know about the topic?

Did what it describes happen often? was it common? or rare? etc

#### Source A

From an interview with Gunner William Towers in 1989. Here, he is recalling his treatment following a wound to his leg at Ypres in October 1917.

They took us to a hospital at Etaples and fitted me with a Thomas splint, a round wooden ring with iron bands and a footrest. The pain from my knee was getting terrible so when I saw an officer coming up with his arm around two sisters and laughing, I said, 'Excuse me, Sir, could you have a look at my knee?' He came over and he stank of whisky. When the nurses took the bandages off he said, 'Oh there's fluid above the knee. We'll tap that tonight.' So they came for me to go to the theatre and I thought, 'Thank God for that.' But when I woke up in the early hours of the morning I thought, 'Oh my God. My leg's gone.' They'd guillotined it off without saying a word. There had been no hint at all that I was going to lose my leg. They hadn't even looked at it until I asked the doctor.

After that they put me on a boat and I was taken to England. A civilian doctor came to look at me and when he took the bandages off the smell was terrible. He thought I was going to die.

eg:

Source A is a person remembering events that happened 70 years ago. The events he is talking about are traumatic and he experienced them personally so they will be in his memory.

context / limitation:

Although it might be fair to say he couldn't possibly remember all of the details after 70 years, so accuracy might not be as strong.

Source A could be useful because it is likely true...

Remember to make 1-2 detailed points about both sources and justify why think it is useful or not

### EG: OF LIMITATIONS:

Source A only mentions one day of the Battle, therefore isn't as comprehensive as it could be, affecting its usefulness ... Finish point off justifying / evaluating the source in relation to the words of the question

Source B is a newspaper article that says the injuries ... were less severe ... but I know that (accuracy)

### EG: POSITIVES:

Source A is useful as it is from a nurse's report into how she treated a soldier for trench foot, it is useful because she is giving her own experience therefore...

Source B, by [soldier] is his own diary of his treatment, it also supports what I know of treatment for ... He wrote it in 1918 so his memory will have been much clearer making this source useful for... (refer to Q)

### LIMITATIONS:

Source B talks about the treatment of [soldier] but only mentions one treatment, it doesn't mention other forms of treatment for...

Source A talks about the gas attacks, it is useful for as it tells us what happened during the attack, but it doesn't say how they treated a gas attack, therefore makes it not very useful for ... (refer to the Q)

# Q2B: [4 MARKS]

## HOW COULD YOU FOLLOW UP SOURCE B TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT \*...?

(4)

Detail in Source A that I would follow up:

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Question I would ask:

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What type of source I could use:

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How this might help answer my question:

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### DIFFERENT TYPES OF SOURCES

#### National

NATIONAL ARMY RECORDS FOR INDIVIDUAL SOLDIERS

NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON ASPECTS OF THE WAR

MEDICAL ARTICLES BY DOCTORS AND NURSES WHO TOOK PART IN THE WAR

#### Local

PERSONAL ACCOUNTS BY: SOLDIERS, DOCTORS, NURSES ETC

PHOTOGRAPHS

HOSPITAL RECORDS

ARMY STATISTICS

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

Detail in Source A that I would follow up: **EXAMPLE:**

*After doing well for three days a massive gas infection set in.*

Question I would ask:

*How effective were the different types of treatments for dealing with infections like gas gangrene?*

What type of source I could use:

*Army medical records with statistical data on the survival rates of men who had different treatments for gas gangrene such as irrigation, debridement and amputation.*

How this might help answer my question:

*It would help to see if one of the treatments that was used on the Western Front was more effective than the others.*

Remember, you've already assessed the source in Q2A, for Q2B, you're just picking out something you find interesting and want to find out more about.

**\* It MUST be focused on the example it gives in the question!**

# 5 MINS MAX