

Paper Reference(s) 1HI0/11
Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

History

**PAPER 1: Thematic study and
historic environment**

**Option 11: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present
AND The British sector of the Western Front,
1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches**

Wednesday 15 May 2024 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Sources Booklet

**DO NOT RETURN THIS BOOKLET
WITH THE QUESTION PAPER.**

Sources for use with Section A.

SOURCE A: From an account by May Tilton, published in 1933. May Tilton was a senior nurse, working on the Western Front. Here she is commenting on her experiences in a Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) in 1917.

We worked night after night, in the thunderous noise of raging battles. We cleaned and bandaged the wounded. We comforted them, praised their courage, praised their endurance and strength of will. The atmosphere was full of the stink of blood, antiseptic and gas.

One patient said to me: 'I don't want to die'. He had a frightfully smashed up leg that fell to bits as we lifted him from the stretcher. He died before the next morning.

A big shell came over the CCS at three o'clock in the morning and killed fourteen gunners who were nearby.

SOURCE B: From an interview with Effie Garden, in 1986. Effie Garden was a nurse in a Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) on the Western Front during the First World War. The interview was to gather information for a book on the work of nurses during wartime. Here Garden is commenting on her work in a CCS in 1917.

We worked in teams. Each team had two treatment tables. While one patient was being bandaged on one table, the next patient was being given his anaesthetic on the other table. When needed, our team worked from one o'clock in the morning until five o'clock in the evening, although we worked shorter hours when a battle was not being fought.

Our CCS was supposed to deal with head injuries but there were usually other wounds as well. I was often given a scalpel to remove small pieces of shrapnel and clean up minor wounds. This gave the surgeon more time to deal with the more serious cases.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Source A taken from: The Grey Battalion
by May Tilton © Angus and Robertson, 1933;**

**Source B taken from: Nurses of
Passchendaele: Caring for the
Wounded of the Ypres Campaigns
1914–1918 by Christine E. Hallett © Pen &
Sword History, November 2017**