

Paper Reference(s) 1HI0/12
Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

History

PAPER 1: Thematic study and historic environment

**Option 12: Warfare and British society, c1250–present
and London and the Second World War, 1939–45**

Wednesday 15 May 2024 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Sources Booklet

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

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Sources for use with Section A.

SOURCE A: The photograph on the following page was taken by a member of the London Fire Brigade. It shows firefighters dealing with a warehouse fire in London, 7 September 1940. The photograph was kept by the Fire Brigade as a record of its work during the Blitz.

(continued on the next page)

SOURCE A continued.



Turn over

SOURCE B: From an account written by R Simmons in 1994. The account was based on a diary he kept during the Second World War. Here he is recalling a V2 attack in January 1945. He was 15 years old at the time of the attack.

The destruction was complete. The V2 had fallen in the middle of the road, creating a large crater, and the houses had collapsed.

The rescue services were quickly organised. A team of people was allocated to each of the demolished houses. There were frequent calls for silence so that we could listen for trapped victims under the rubble. Being reasonably small, I was asked to crawl into one pile of wreckage because there was a little girl in the house. Her cries could be heard but a fire was starting to build up. A chain of rescuers began to remove the rubble while the firemen aimed their hoses at the fire. Eventually she was brought out only slightly cut and bruised.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Source A taken from: ©London Fire Brigade/Mary Evans Picture Library;

Source B taken from: The Battle of London 1939-45: Endurance, Heroism and Frailty Under Fire by Jerry White © Bodley Head, 2021