

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

Monday 1 June 2020 – Morning

Sources Booklet

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THE QUESTION PAPER.**

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Sources for use with Section A.

SOURCE A: From a diary account by Dr Harvey Cushing, 25 April 1915. Cushing worked as a surgeon on the Western Front.

When we got to the ambulances, we heard about a recent gas attack. A huge, greenish cloud of smoke with a yellowish top had rolled down from the German trenches. Only sixty men out of a thousand survived the attack.

Later, I saw some of those who had been affected. Two of them were still conscious but gasping for breath, their faces discoloured, and they were about to die. I hoped they didn't have long to wait, poor chaps.

Then we saw many of the severely gassed men who had arrived at the hospital this morning. It was a terrible business. One man's face was dark blue and with every cough, he coughed up a thick stream of discoloured phlegm. He was too busy struggling to breathe to bother much about anything else – a most horrible form of death.

SOURCE B: The photograph on page 5 was taken in 1918. It shows British troops waiting for treatment at an Advanced Dressing Station, after a gas attack. The photograph is in black and white. It shows a row of soldiers in 1918 army uniforms. They are standing closely together. Each man is using his left hand and arm outstretched to hold onto the shoulder of the soldier in front of him in the row. Some are wearing helmets, some have bandages around their heads covering their eyes. Their heads are all downward facing.

(continued on the next page)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Source A taken from Sisters of the Somme: True Stories from a First World War Field Hospital By Penny Starns

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