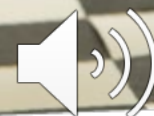


GCSE History

Paper 1 Question 2a
Source utility question



Q2a: Source utility

- **This question will ask you to explain how two sources are useful for a specific enquiry.**
- It is worth 8 marks.
- We advise that you spend 15 minutes answering this question (extra time: 19 minutes), including up to 3 minutes for thinking/ planning time.
- You must write about both sources.
- You do **not** need to compare the sources or say which one is most useful.



Q2a: Source utility

Our question

2 (a) **Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet.**

How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into the work of medical staff in the Casualty Clearing Stations (CCS) on the Western Front?

Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

1. Look for the focus of the enquiry – **the work of medical staff in the Casualty Clearing Stations**
2. Take up to 3 minutes to plan your answer – annotate both sources



Q2a: Source utility

Other options

2 (a) Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet.

How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into conditions in lodging houses in the Whitechapel area?

Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

(a) Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet.

How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into the difficulties in dealing with the effects of German attacks on London?

Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

2 (a) Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet.

How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into Black activism in the Notting Hill area?

Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)



Q2a: Source utility

How to answer the question

2 (a) **Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet.**

How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into the work of medical staff in the Casualty Clearing Stations (CCS) on the Western Front?

Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

For **each source**, consider

- **Content** – what information does the source give us about the focus of the enquiry? How does this make the source useful?
- **Provenance** – the nature of the source OR it's origin OR it's purpose. How does this make the source useful for the enquiry?
- **Contextual knowledge** – what do you know that supports the source content? Or the source provenance?



Q2a: Source utility

What is your examiner looking for?

Explain how the source content and provenance makes the source useful for the enquiry.

Develop with your contextual knowledge.

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.

gunners who were nearby". Source A is useful because it also suggests that medical staff weren't just there to treat the wounded but to mentally assist them. I know this as it says "We comforted them, praised their courage". Source A is useful as it agrees with my own knowledge. I know that the FANY based in CCS and would be there to give not just medical treatment, but make them feel like they were doing a good job by saying positive things to encourage the wounded. Source A is useful as it was ~~based on a senior nurse~~ wrote from a senior nurse, who would have been an eye witness to the work of medical staff in CCS, and it was from ~~her~~ their experiences in 1917 which was when many battles were happening, such as Battle of Cambria



Q2a: Source utility

What makes a good answer?

- **Start each paragraph with a direct focus on the question**

“Source A/ B is useful for an enquiry into ... because ...”

- **Use details from the content of the source and explain how this information is useful for the enquiry**

“Source A tells us that ... This suggests ... This makes the source useful for an enquiry into ... because”

- **Use the provenance to explain how the source is useful, or not, for the enquiry**

“Source A was written/ produced/ painted by ... This makes the source useful because ...”

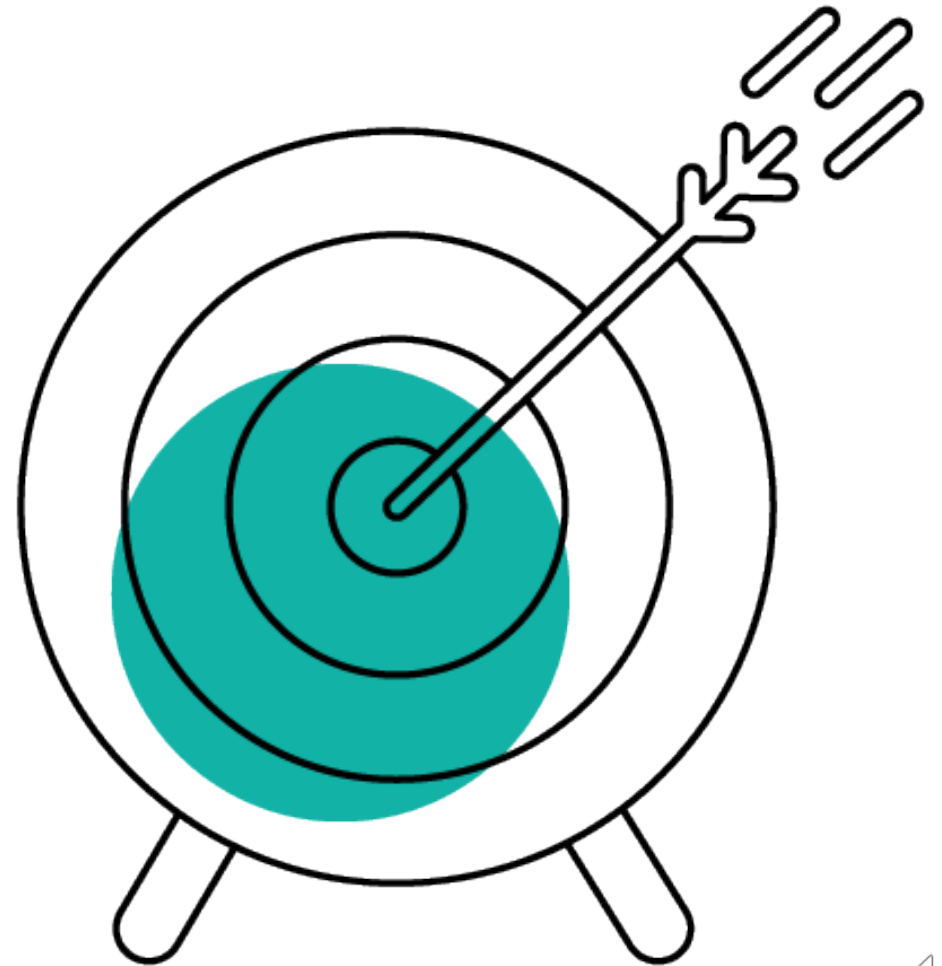
- **Use your knowledge to show that the source is correct or explain your argument further**



Student support

In this video we have looked at how you should answer Q2a on Paper 1 of your GCSE History exam.

Find revision tips and guidance on command words on the Edexcel website [here](#).





Pearson

