

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

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes plus your additional time allowance

SOURCES BOOKLET

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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: A photograph taken in 1918. It shows British troops waiting for treatment at an Advanced Dressing Station, after a gas attack.



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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