

EDEXCEL GCSE

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

SET 1

Insert

Sources for use with Section A.

Source A: Sergeant Robert McKay, a stretcher-bearer with the 109th Field Ambulance Unit, kept a diary during the Battle of Ypres in August 1917

Source B: A photograph showing a regimental aid post and horse ambulance of the Royal Army Medical Corps in the front of Zillebeke at the Battle of Passchendaele, 24th September 1917.

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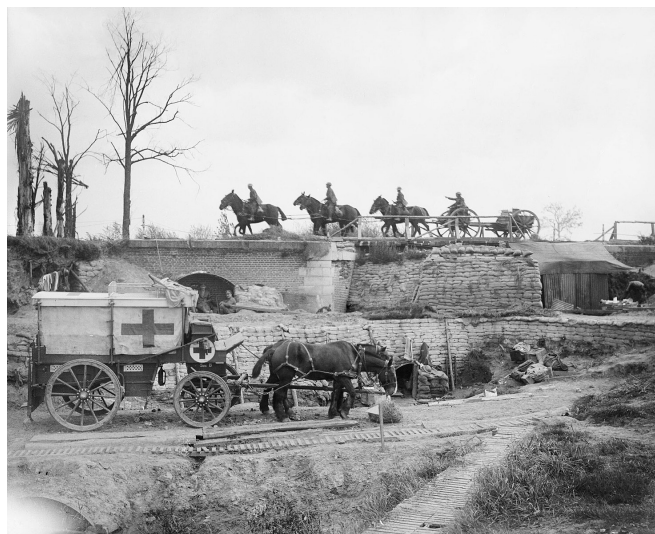
“6 August: Today awful: was obliged to carry some of the wounded into the graveyard and look on helplessly till they died. Sometimes we could not even obtain a drink of water for them.

7 August: Bringing the wounded down from the front line today. Conditions terrible. The ground is a quagmire. It requires six men to every stretcher. The mud in some cases is up to our waists.

14 August: One party of stretcher-bearers was bringing down a wounded man when an airman swooped down and dropped a bomb deliberately on them. The enemy shells the stretcher-bearers all the time.

16 August: The infantry took a few pill-boxes and a line or two of trenches from the enemy in this attack but at a fearful cost. It is only murder attempting to advance against these pill-boxes over such ground. Any number of men fall down wounded and are either smothered in the mud or drowned in the holes of water before we can reach them. We have been working continuously now since the 13th. The stretcher-bearers are done up completely.”

Source B: A photograph showing a regimental aid post and horse ambulance of the Royal Army Medical Corps in the front of Zillebeke at the Battle of Passchendaele, 24th September 1917.





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