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 4 June 2018 – Morning
Sources Booklet

Paper Reference
1HI0/11

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source A: A photograph showing a British casualty clearing station on the Western Front, c1916.



Source B: From *A Nurse at the Front, The First World War Diaries of Sister Edith Appleton* by Edith Appleton. Edith's handwritten diaries were kept by her family until they were published in 2012. She was a trained nurse, working at a military base hospital in northern France. Here Edith is describing the arrival of wounded soldiers at the hospital during the early days of the Battle of the Somme, 1916.

July 4

Wounded! Hundreds upon hundreds, some on stretchers, some being carried, and some walking – and all covered from head to foot in mud. We had to deal with large numbers of horribly bad wounds. Some were crawling with maggots while others were stinking and full of gangrene. One poor lad had been shot in both eyes. Three men had died on the way to the hospital and two died before they could be treated.

July 8

The surgeons are amputating limbs and boring holes into skulls at the rate of 30 a day.

July 13

I fear one boy may not get better. He has pneumonia caused by a lump of metal in his left lung and I suppose they will not be able to operate on him.

Acknowledgements

Source A © Mary Evans Picture Library/Pump Park Photography; Source B taken from 'A Nurse at the Front, The First Wold War Diaries of Sister Edith Appleton', Ruth Cowan, Simon & Schuster UK

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