2.8 Trench Foot, Trench Fever and Frostbite: Illness on the Western Front: 10-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 10 minutes on this pack.

1 Name the oily substance soldiers were told to rub into their feet to help prevent trench foot.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Give one reason why front-line trenches in the British sector often became waterlogged.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Name the tiny parasitic insect that spread trench fever among soldiers on the Western Front.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 State two ways trench fever affected a soldier's ability to fight.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Describe two features of how British commanders and medical officers tried to prevent trench foot and frostbite among men in the front-line trenches.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.8 Trench Foot, Trench Fever and Frostbite: Illness on the Western Front: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

whale oil **B1**

Answer: Whale oil

Question 2

low-lying ground, heavy rain, shell damage to drainage, or the high water table in areas such as around Ypres **B1**

Answer: Low-lying ground and damaged drainage meant trenches could fill with water.

Question 3

body louse or lice **B1**

Answer: Body louse or lice

Question 4

it caused fever, headache or severe aches that made a soldier unfit for duty **B1**

it could recur or keep a soldier away from the front line for a long period **B1**

Answer: Trench fever caused fever, headaches and aches that made soldiers unfit for duty, and it could recur or keep them away from the front line for weeks.

Question 5

feature 1 identified, e.g. compulsory daily foot inspections **B1**

supporting detail for feature 1, e.g. officers and medical staff examined soldiers feet to spot early signs and remove those affected from the line **B1**

feature 2 identified, e.g. provision of dry socks, spare boots and whale oil **B1**

supporting detail for feature 2, e.g. men were issued with spare socks and told to rub whale oil into their feet to repel moisture **B1**

Answer: Compulsory daily foot inspections were used to spot early signs and remove men from the line, and men were issued dry socks and spare boots and told to rub whale oil into their feet to repel moisture.

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