2.8 Trench Foot, Trench Fever and Frostbite: Illness on the Western Front: Test Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 15 minutes on this pack.

1 Give the term for the condition caused by prolonged exposure of the feet to cold, wet and muddy trenches, often leading to numbness and skin damage.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Name the army medical service responsible for treating sick and wounded soldiers in the British sector of the Western Front.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 State two items issued to soldiers to help prevent trench foot.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 Give two records a historian could use to investigate cases of trench foot in a battalion.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Describe two features of trench fever on the Western Front.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

6 How could you follow up Source B to find out more about how effective the recommended measures were in reducing cases of trench foot and trench fever? Give four linked elements: the detail you would follow up from Source B, the question you would ask, the type of source you would look for, and how that source would help answer the question.

(Total for Question 6 is 4 marks)

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

Question 1

trench foot **B1**

Answer: Trench foot

Question 2

the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) **B1**

Answer: The Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC)

Question 3

one issued item, e.g. dry socks, spare boots or whale oil **B1**

a second, different issued item from the same list **B1**

Answer: Any two of: dry socks, spare boots, whale oil.

Question 4

regimental medical officer's reports, sick parade records or field ambulance admission records **B1**

casualty returns, battalion war diary entries or hospital records **B1**

Answer: A historian could use regimental medical officer's reports and field ambulance or hospital admission records.

Question 5

feature 1 identified, e.g. trench fever was spread by lice **B1**

supporting detail for feature 1, e.g. lice thrived in dirty uniforms and crowded trench conditions **B1**

feature 2 identified, e.g. trench fever caused recurring illness rather than a battle wound **B1**

supporting detail for feature 2, e.g. symptoms such as fever, headache and severe aches could keep soldiers away from duty for weeks **B1**

Answer: Trench fever was spread by lice living in dirty uniforms, and it caused recurring fever, headaches and severe aches that could keep soldiers away from duty for weeks.

Question 6

identifies a specific detail from Source B to follow up, for example the recommendation for compulsory daily foot inspections **B1**

gives a linked question, for example How widely and regularly were daily foot inspections carried out in this regiment and did they reduce cases? **B1**

suggests an appropriate source type, for example regimental medical records or casualty returns showing numbers of trench foot and trench fever cases over time **B1**

explains how that source would help, for example medical records would show trends in illness after inspections were introduced, indicating effectiveness or otherwise **B1**

Answer: E.g. follow up the memo's recommendation for compulsory daily foot inspections. Ask how widely and how regularly inspections were carried out and whether trench foot cases fell afterwards. Look for regimental medical records or casualty returns showing cases before and after the measure. These records would show trends in case numbers and help judge whether the inspections were effective.

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