

- 7 Use your own knowledge and Source C to give THREE reasons why it was difficult to evacuate wounded men from the trenches.

3

Evacuation of the wounded was extremely difficult due to many reasons. The seasonal rain, combined with mortar and artillery fire churned the ground into a bog, making transport incredibly difficult and dangerous, many soldiers drowned in the mud.

Heavy fire from the enemy could be a constant and so medics would be forced to ~~avoid~~ dodge this and attempt to navigate the trenches.

The trenches were narrow and poorly constructed, as shown in Source C, and medics were forced to make do with their limited supplies as the dead and wounded

8 Use your own knowledge and Sources B and D to answer this question.

6

Outline how the experiences of trench warfare changed soldiers' attitudes to the war over time.

Trench warfare was never used previously to the extent of which it was during World War I. Both sides raced from Switzerland to the Sea in an initial hope to gain more ground than the other, and this resulted in a stalemate on the Western Front. Used to planning and executing military tactics for frontal assaults, those in charge were at a loss, and continued to order their troops into futile suicide-missions of frontal attacks in the attempt to breakthrough enemy lines. All of these failed.

Soon the frustration of their inability to make any advancements began to pile onto other growing dismays of the troops. Merely a year into the war, it became obvious to British Allied troops, as expressed in Source B, by soldier Robert Graves, that they lacked the desperately required weaponry to achieve a breakthrough.

This frustration and depression worsened as soldiers realised that they were regarded as disposable by their superiors and countless companions died in the unsuccessful frontal attacks. Shellshock was commonplace in the trenches, and disease and illness afflicted most all of the soldiers.

As Source D shows, the soldiers were at mercy with the forces of nature - the seasons and weather. The constant drizzle soaked them through and filled the trenches with mud - trench foot was commonplace amongst soldiers and bacteria in the soils from animal waste caused gas gangrene, which had only preventative amputation as a 'cure'. Other diseases - ran rampant in the cramped, filthy conditions, and ~~the~~ bodies of dead soldiers floated amongst the mass.