

# GCSE Paper 1 - Historic Environment: Medicine on the Western Front Knowledge Organiser

**Rationale:** Section A of Paper 1 is a study of an Historic Environment. Our Historic Environment is medicine on the Western Front during the First World War. You will learn about the environment on the Western Front including the terrain, illnesses that affected soldiers and the treatments for these illnesses. You will also learn about the injuries that soldiers received and how medicine had to develop in order to deal with these injuries. There will be a focus on contemporary sources and how they help us to learn about the past.

Key concepts/skills		Key vocabulary	
1. <b>Contemporary source</b>	Evidence from the time of the event	23. <b>Shellshock</b>	A mental illness caused by the conditions of war
2. <b>Useful</b>	Whether a historical source is helpful for learning about a topic.	24. <b>Rifle</b>	Weapon carried by all soldiers, a bayonet could be fixed to the end.
3. <b>Inference</b>	Working out things from a historical source that are not explicitly stated.	25. <b>Machine gun</b>	Could fire 500 rounds a minutes. Pierced organs and fractured bones.
4. <b>Provenance</b>	The nature, origin and purpose of a source	26. <b>Artillery</b>	Big guns that fired shells at the enemy, the shells often released shrapnel (twisted bits of metal).
5. <b>Nature</b>	What type of source is it e.g. letter, report, photograph	27. <b>Poison gas</b>	Could cause death through suffocation but most injuries caused were temporary e.g. blindness.
6. <b>Origin</b>	Where did the source come from e.g. who produced it, when	28. <b>Gas gangrene</b>	An infection caused by the soil from farmland where the war was fought getting into wounds.
7. <b>Purpose</b>	For what reason was the source produced	29. <b>Brodie helmet</b>	A steel helmet with a strap, introduced in 1915 to protect against head injuries.
Key events		30. <b>Evacuation route</b>	The route used to transport injured soldiers for treatment.
8. <b>Second Battle of Ypres, 1915</b>	Poison gas was used as a weapon by the Germans for the first time here.	31. <b>Stretcher bearer</b>	Men who went into No Man's Land to bring back the injured.
8. <b>Battle of the Somme, 1916</b>	One of the bloodiest battle of the war, it lasted for 4 months. High numbers of casualties put pressure on medical services on the Western Front. Tanks were used for the first time here.	32. <b>Regimental Aid Post</b>	Close to the front line, provided first aid for the lightly wounded.
10. <b>Battle of Arras, 1917</b>	Before the battle, Allied soldiers dug tunnels below Arras. Tunnels led to rooms and included an underground hospital.	33. <b>Dressing station</b>	Emergency treatment for wounded. Operated a system of triage.
11. <b>Battle of Cambrai, 1917</b>	450 tanks were used to advance on the German position, however, the plan did not work because there was not enough infantry to support.	34. <b>Casualty Clearing Station</b>	Large, well equipped medical areas for treating the more seriously injured.
Key vocabulary		35. <b>RAMC</b>	Royal Army Medical Corps - the branch of the army that provided medical care.
12. <b>Cause (of illness)</b>	The reason why someone becomes ill	36. <b>FANY</b>	First Aid Nursing Yeomanry - volunteer nurses.
13. <b>Treatment</b>	Methods used to make a sick person well again	37. <b>Triage</b>	A system to sort the injured into more or less serious cases.
14. <b>Prevention</b>	Methods used to stop people becoming ill	37. <b>Thomas Splint</b>	A device that stopped broken joints moving.
15. <b>Terrain</b>	The physical features of the land	38. <b>Mobile x-ray unit</b>	An x-ray unit in a van; allowed bullets and shrapnel to be located in bodies so treatment could be given quickly.
16. <b>Front line trench</b>	This was where attacks were launched from.	39. <b>Blood transfusion</b>	A syringe and tube were used to transfer blood from patient to donor
17. <b>Support trench</b>	80 metres behind the front line. Troops would retreat here if the front line was attacked.	40. <b>Blood bank</b>	Blood was stored in glass bottles at a blood bank and used to treat wounded soldiers at the Battle of Cambrai.
18. <b>Reserve trench</b>	100 metres behind the support trench. Reserve troops would be here to launch counter attacks	41. <b>Debridement</b>	Cutting away infected tissue from around the wound to prevent it spreading.
19. <b>Communication trench</b>	Allowed soldiers to move between trenches and were used for carrying messages.	42. <b>Carrel Dakin method</b>	Using tubes to keep a sterilised salt solution flowing through the wound which stopped infection spreading.
20. <b>No Man's Land</b>	The land between the trenches.	43. <b>Amputation</b>	Cutting off a limb to prevent infection spreading.
21. <b>Trench foot</b>	An illness caused by soldiers standing in mud/waterlogged trenches.	44. <b>Brain surgery</b>	Magnets used to remove metal fragments from the brain. Local anaesthetic to stop brain swelling.
22. <b>Trench fever</b>	An illness caused by body lice with flu-like symptoms. Also known as pyrexia.	45. <b>Plastic surgery</b>	Replacing and restoring those parts of the face that had been destroyed in the war