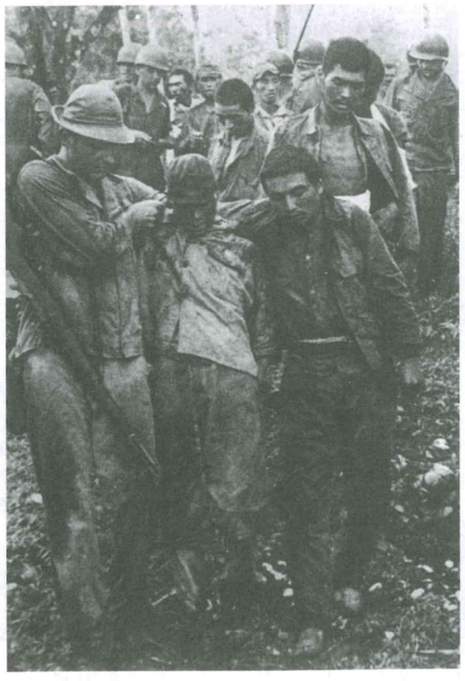
Sources A to F for Question 5

Source A: From the memoirs of a US soldier who fought at Guadalcanal, August 1942.

We surrounded the Japanese in the valleys. The Japanese were tough fighters. They would never give up. We cut off the remains of a Japanese regiment. After we had surrounded them we used loud-speakers to try to get them to surrender. But they kept fighting. We had to go into the valleys and kill them. They would not surrender.

Source B: A photograph of US marines escorting Japanese prisoners during the assault on Guadalcanal.



Source C: A US marine describes Guadalcanal, 1942.

The scene became wild and terrible. More Japs rushed screaming from the caves. They tumbled over the rocks, their clothes and bodies burning fiercely. Soon the flame-throwers paused. There were no shots from the caves. A Jap with his clothes in rags came out of the hole, his arms upraised. He indicated that there were more who would like to surrender.

Source D: Extracts from the diary of a US medical officer who took part in the Battle for Iwo Jima.

4 March 1945. Last night the Japanese launched another attack, screaming 'Banzai! Banzai!'. Our boys just mowed them down.
12 March 1945. Today we can see the north side of the island. The end is in sight, but so far away because the Japs refuse to surrender.
17 March 1945. Today the island was secured. I wish to hell someone would tell the Japs that we have finally captured the island. They don't seem to know it and won't surrender.
20 March 1945. We have suffered very heavy casualties. Out of the thirteen medics who came ashore, only five of us are left.

Source E: An official US photograph showing US troops raising the US flag after the capture of Iwo Jima, March 1945. The photo was taken at the end of the battle.



Source F: From a textbook on the Second World War, published in 1990.

The closer the US troops got to Japan, the harder the Japanese fought. Despite the homelessness, hunger and industrial collapse created by US bombing, the Japanese prepared in 1945 to fight to the end. There were still four million men in the armed forces and a Home Army which included 4,800 *kamikaze* aircraft and 600 *kamikaze* boats. Furthermore, it was only after victory in Europe, May 1945, that the Allies were able to focus their manpower and resources on the defeat of Japan.
