Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Time 2 hours

Paper reference **WHI03/1B**

History

International Advanced

Paper 3: Thematic Study With Source Evaluation

Option 1B: The British Experience of Warfare, 1803–1945

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ▶

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Sources 1 and 2 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

1 How far could the historian make use of Sources 1 and 2 together to investigate the nature of trench warfare on the Western Front?

Explain your answer using both sources, the information given about them and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(25)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS

SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

2 How far do you agree that the significance of the female contribution to the war effort was greater in the years 1939–45 than in the years 1914–18?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

3 'Technological developments played little part in the outcome of the second Boer War (1899–1902) but were key to the outcome of the war against Nazi Germany (1939–45).'

How far do you agree with this statement?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☐ **Question 3** ☐

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS

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Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Time 2 hours

Paper reference **WHI03/1B**

History

International Advanced
PAPER 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation
Option 1B: The British Experience of Warfare, 1803–1945

Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ▶

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source 1: From George Coppard, *With a machine gun to Cambrai*, published 1969. Coppard enlisted as a private soldier in August 1914 and fought on the Western Front. Here he is writing about the early days of the battle of the Somme.

In front of us was clear evidence that our attack had been brutally repulsed. Concentrated machine gun fire from guns commanding every inch of the German wire had done its terrible work. There were hundreds of dead. Many were strung out on the enemy wire, as it was clear there were no gaps in the wire at the time of the attack. The Germans had been reinforcing the wire for months. The wire was so dense that daylight could barely be seen through it.

How did our planners imagine that we would break through the German wire? What made them think that artillery fire would pound wire to pieces? Any ordinary soldier could have told them that shell-fire lifts wire up and drops it down, often in a worse tangle than before. A vast amount of our artillery fire was directed against the enemy wire before 1 July but it was largely wasted effort.

German troops were in no way superior to the British. What was superior was the enemy trench system; built in thorough German fashion to a proper standard of strength and efficiency, and defended with large numbers of machine guns. It was the strength of this system that our planners seriously underestimated. Any criticism of the lack of experience of our troops is a cruel slander. Even if every one of our boys had been a highly trained guardsman, he could have done no more than reach the wire – if he had got as far as that – and then die.

Our assault troops hadn't a chance. Someone had made a serious mistake about the wire. Any element of surprise had been ruined by the long bombardment of the enemy trenches. The Germans had ample time to repair and strengthen their defences and lay quiet in deep dugouts waiting for us.

Source 2: From the memoirs of Christopher Baker-Carr, published 1930. Baker-Carr, in 1917, was a senior British commander in the Tanks Corps. Here he is commenting on the Third Battle of Ypres.

After our 16-day intense preliminary bombardment, and the resulting German retaliation, the whole surface of the battleground consisted of nothing but a series of shell craters, half full of yellow slimy water. While advancing to the attack, hundreds upon hundreds of unwounded men lost their lives by falling into these pools. The mere act of walking over this swamp, especially if weighed down by the heavy packs that the soldiers carried into action, took considerable effort. The original roads had almost completely ceased to exist and, in order to enable any wheeled traffic to move at all, it was necessary to lay artificial tracks. These were constantly destroyed by shellfire.

Furthermore, at this point of the war the Germans had established a definite superiority in the air with their aircraft. The artificial tracks and any 'duckboard' walkways constructed were constantly machine gunned by low-flying aircraft. Every yard of ground was carefully covered by the enemy's guns and they had even evolved a hugely effective gas shell containing mustard gas.

I am absolutely convinced that the army department responsible for the staging of the offensive outside Ypres in 1917 had not the remotest idea of the real state of affairs that existed on the battlefield. Consequently, they formulated their plans on a hopelessly incorrect basis.

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