

1. Explain why many soldiers were unhappy with life in the trenches.

Many soldiers were unhappy as they had no proper sleep. ”. Sleeping was not at all comfortable as they used to sleep in dugouts supported by sand bags and half of the time they couldn’t sleep due to the noise. In rainy season, the trenches would have gotten muddy and then the soldiers used to stay in that mud for several hours which caused “Trench foot”. Lice also spread in the unhygienic conditions when the men were close together. Constant gun firing and noise of explosions even led to some mental illness called the “shell shock”. Food was not something tasty as the soldiers only got some bully beef and biscuit and sometimes turnips and carrots were turned into thin soup.

2. Describe the use of poisonous gas as a weapon in the First World War.

Poisonous gas was used by the Germans first in WW1. There were 3 types of gas: chlorine gas, mustard gas and phosgene gas. Chlorine gas destroyed lungs by filling them with fluid. The British then started using the gas but then it was of no use cause they came up with a solution to protect themselves by the chlorine gas so they were told to urinate on their handkerchiefs and use it against the gas.

3. Evaluate the usefulness of Source A as evidence of the use of tanks in the First World War.

Source A is partly useful as a evidence of conditions. The content is useful as it correctly states that the tanks were driven by caterpillar tracks which meant it could cross the uneven ground of No Man’s Land. It is useful as it correctly states that they were used against the entanglements of barbed wire. However it is less useful as it fails to mention that Britain was the first one to develop the idea. It also fails to mention that some of the tanks had machine guns on them.

The source is useful because it is secondary evidence written in 2002. It was written by A.C Savson which is useful as he has done research on it and had a hindsight of the war