



**ST PAUL'S SCHOOL
JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION**

MAY 2014

HISTORY

1 hour

plus 5 minutes reading time

(NB: during the first 5 minutes, you may annotate or highlight the question paper but may not write anything on your answer sheet)

Credit will be given for clear and accurate English

Life in Britain during the First World War

Read the text below and the sources which follow and then answer all parts of Section A on the inserted question sheet.

Background

The War brought many changes to civilian's everyday lives. In 1914 the government passed the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA). This legislation gave the government power to suppress published criticism, imprison without trial and to confiscate economic resources for the war effort. Towards the end of the war food shortages led to strict limits being placed upon how much food individuals were allowed. Sugar was the first to be rationed and this was later followed by butchers' meat. Meanwhile, Germany began to experiment with aerial bombardment from zeppelins (airships). In 1915 there were 20 raids by zeppelins, in which 37 tons of bombs were dropped, killing 181 people and injuring 455. However, not all civilians were affected in the same way: it brought hardships for some and opportunities for others. For instance, by working in munitions (arms) factories, the political position of women was significantly improved and in 1918 women over 28 years of age were allowed to vote in general elections.

Source A A cartoon about the rich, published in a British magazine in 1917.



Source B A police report on the effect of an air raid in 1917.

AIR RAID 13 th June 1917 Summary of available information					
Time	Place	Bombs dropped	Casualties		Damage
			Killed	Injured	
10.45pm to 11.30pm	Kent, Essex and London	25	85	425	120 houses Iron foundry Liverpool Street Station
NOTES					
Casualty numbers are believed to be correct but additional information may emerge in the next day or two.					

Source C From a speech by a government minister in October 1917.

The most recent zeppelin raid appears to have been carried out by ten or more zeppelins. Of these, only five reached the London area and the rest left the country causing no damage. Of the five zeppelins which approached London, only one got through the city's defences. This zeppelin dropped three bombs which caused a small amount of damage and a small loss of life. Sad though this is, it is clear that the government's actions in strengthening the country's air defences are proving successful.

TURN OVER

Source D From a government report published in 1918, some time before the war ended.

Workers in some industries, such as steel and chemicals, have enjoyed wage rises of up to 120 per cent during the war. However, taking all industries together, the increases in wages average around 35 to 40 per cent. This figure is much lower than the average increase in the cost of living, which is estimated at about 80 per cent. The great bulk of the working classes are in a much worse position than before the war.

Source E An extract from the BBC History Bitesize website

Women's experiences during the war raised their self-image and sense of individual identity. In addition to that, many served with such distinction, in the medical services particularly, that their political cause gained credibility as a result.

Source F An extract from the History Learning Site website

In 1917 the Germans introduced unrestricted submarine warfare which meant that merchant ships were sunk with great frequency. This had a drastic impact on Britain's food supply and, with great losses in the Atlantic, food had to be rationed so that no-one starved in Britain. In April 1916, Britain only had six weeks of wheat left and bread was a staple part of most diets. 1916 was a bleak year for families - with the news from the Battle of the Somme and with food in short supply, suddenly the war was brought home to most families. Food prices rose and by October 1916, coal was in such short supply that it was rationed by the number of rooms a family had in its house. ... The impact of the German U-boat campaign made food shortages a serious problem by 1918. Malnutrition was seen in poor communities and as a result the government introduced rationing in 1918. ... Rationing was a clear indication to the British public that all was not well, but it did work. The malnutrition that had been identified in the poorer communities disappeared and as in World War Two, no one actually starved in Britain during the war.

END OF PAPER