

Questions :

- 1- Study Sources A and B. What are the similarities and the differences between them?
- 2- Studying soldiers' life and soldiers' attitudes to the war, why is it dangerous to use Source A as historical evidence?
- 3- Using the documents A and B and your own knowledge, explain the role of the British soldiers on the western front during World War I (1914-1918).

SOURCE A

A cigarette card depicting a scene from the First World War.

SOURCE B

After firing once Kendle looked at us with a lively smile; a second later he fell sideways. A blotchy mark showed where the bullet had hit him just above the eyes ... After an awareness that he was killed, all feelings tightened and contracted to a singled intention – ‘to settle that sniper’ on the other side of the valley. If I had stopped to think, I shouldn’t have gone at all. As it was I discarded my tin hat and equipment, slung a bag of bombs across my shoulder, abruptly informed Fernby that I was going to find out who was there ... Just before I arrived at the top [of the opposite slope] I slowed up and threw my two bombs. Then I rushed the bank vaguely expecting some sort of scuffle with my imagined enemy. I had lost my temper with the man who shot Kendle; quite unexpectedly, I found myself looking down into a well conducted trench with a great many Germans in it.

From the novel The Complete Memoirs of George Sherston (1937) by Siegfried Sassoon. The novel is autobiographical and describes many of Sassoon's experiences as an officer on the Western Front.