

2006 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
Modern History

Section I (continued)

Question 3 (10 marks)

Assess how useful Sources C and D would be for an historian studying the impact of total war on the home fronts during World War I.

In your answer, consider the perspectives provided by the TWO sources and the reliability of each one.

Each source shows the different perspectives on the importance of food at the time (1917), which would help an historian studying this as one of the impacts of total war on the home fronts.

Source C is an extract from 'My four years in Germany' written by former American ambassador James Gerald. Written in a descriptive text, it explains the rationing system and scarcity of food in 1917, Germany. Created to inform the audience of whom reads it, we learn that transportation, resources (coal) and entertainment all ~~became~~ halted in the third winter of the war.

As a source it is useful as evidence to show the impact WWI had on the German home front. It is factually reliable in that it was written at the time by someone who was there, making it a first hand account. Thus source C is very useful and reliable to

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Question 3 (continued)

Show conditions at the time and the extent of the war on the home front (Germany).

Source D depicts a woman, who looks like a house wife, cutting and rationing her bread. Linking with the bold writing, the poster formed text clearly states - 'Don't waste bread!'. Claiming saving two slices a day will help in the war effort and stop German U-boat attacks. Made in 1917 by the Ministry of food, it intends to encourage the public at home to save food and ration wisely. Postered in Britain at the time of the war it is useful to a historian studying the homefront as evidence of the lengths that will be gone to in order to show how important rationing was at the time. The source is factually reliable in showing this and indicates the ideology of the home front of the British nations. Therefore it is ~~not~~ ^{also} both useful and reliable in showing ~~these qualities~~ ^{the impact} of WWI from the perspective of the British home front.

End of Question 3