

- 8 Use your own knowledge and Sources B and D to answer this question.

6

Outline how the experiences of trench warfare changed soldiers' attitudes to the war over time.

Source B and Source D demonstrate how the experiences of trench warfare changed soldiers' attitudes to war over time. In 1914, the war began, and the majority of soldiers from both sides were eager and enthusiastic about contributing to the war. However, they held the view that it would all be over by Christmas, which was not the case. As the war progressed both sides began to realise that the methods of infantry going up in lines that had been used in previous wars, was not an effective method to gain success. Both sides changed their tactics into a war of attrition in order to gain ground in the muddy, and 'wet and smelly' conditions, as shown in Source B. As the conditions worsened, and the war continued on, soldiers just focused on 'enduring until the relief unit arrived', as shown in Source D. The horrific conditions, in 'freezing cold, as Source D suggests, and limited food, the soldiers' attitudes changed significantly as the war progressed through to 1918.