

## B2 - THE WAR TO END WARS, 1914-19

### SOURCES (A) TO (F) FOR QUESTION 2

**SOURCE A:** From a school textbook about the First World War published in 1989.

The French expected an attack to take place between Metz and Switzerland. They had heavily fortified this area. As a result, the Germans drew up the Schlieffen Plan. By this, France was to be invaded from the North through Belgium where France's border defences were weak. The Germans thought their plan would allow them to surround Paris and quickly capture it. The main French forces would then soon surrender.

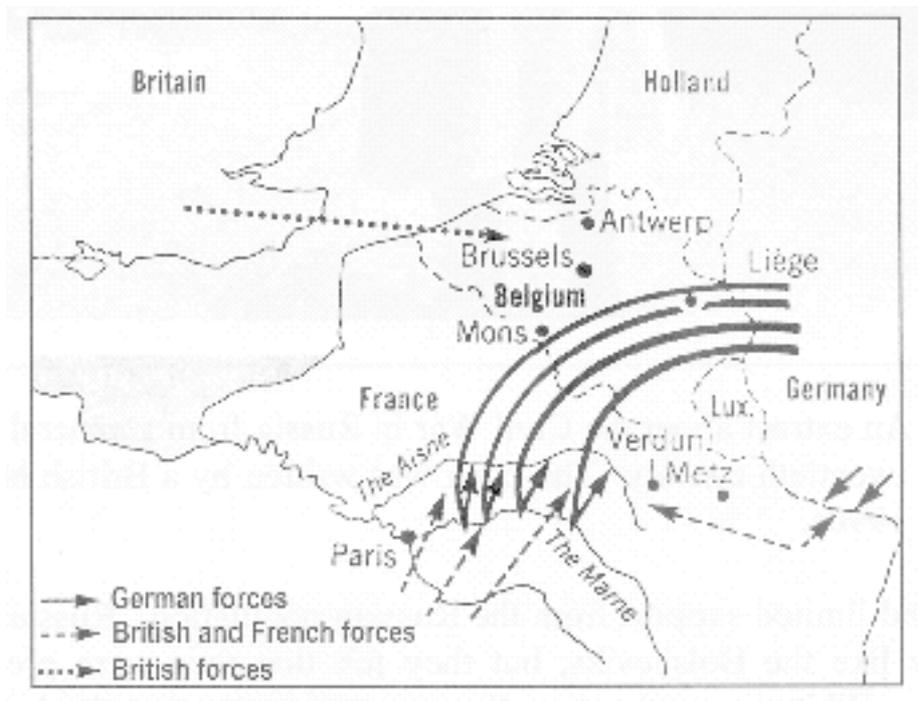
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**SOURCE B:** From a school textbook about Twentieth Century World History.

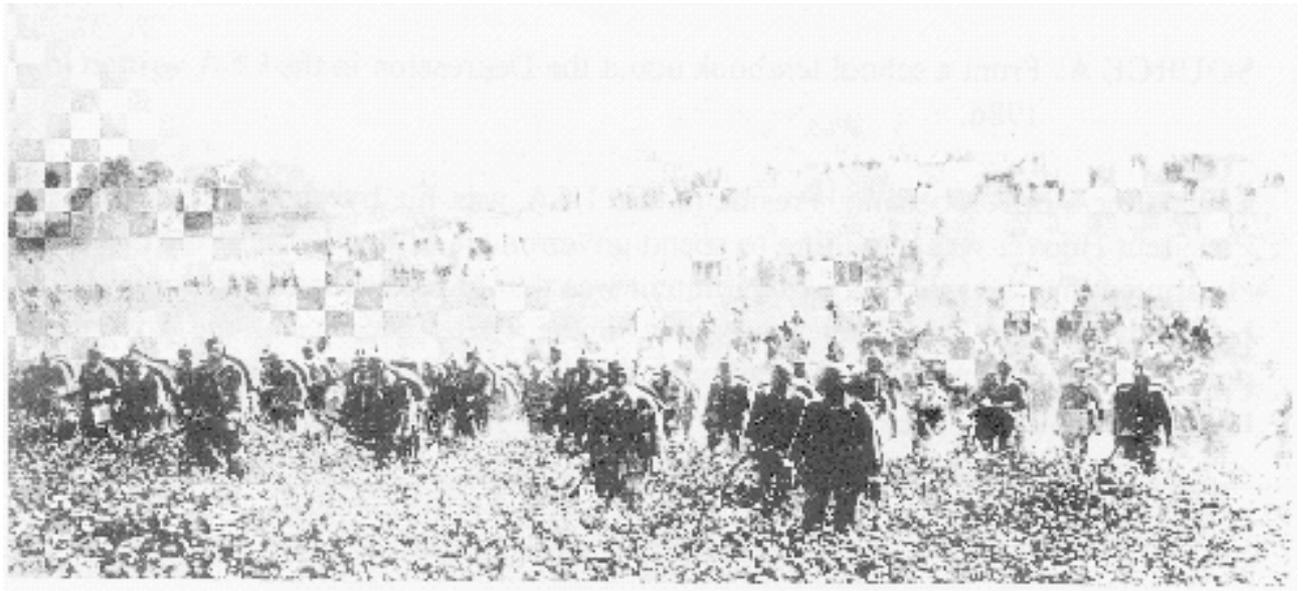
At the beginning of the war the British sent over their Expeditionary Force of 100,000 men. This force slowed the Germans at Mons. There were further problems for the Germans following the speed of the Russian mobilisation. Moltke, the German Chief of Staff, decided to send some of the forces which were attacking France to support the German armies fighting the Russians.

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**SOURCE C:** A map showing the Schlieffen Plan after it was put into operation.



**SOURCE D:** A photograph showing German infantry advancing across open fields, August 1914.



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**SOURCE E:** From the memoirs of a British soldier who fought in France in the early months of the war. He wrote this in 1938.

My units went into action near Mons against the Germans on 23 August. We were attacked by waves of German infantry advancing over open fields. Such tactics amazed us, and after the first shock of men slowly and helplessly falling down as they were hit, we experienced a great sense of power and pleasure.

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**SOURCE F:** From the official history of a German regiment which fought in the early weeks of the First World War. It was included in a British history book about the war and was published in 1930.

In order to march fast, the field kitchen had to be left behind, and there was no issue of bread for four days. The troops had to look for food in an area which had no supplies. It is not surprising that when the Marne was reached, the men were tired out - some men had only one piece of bread, one cup of soup, one cup of coffee and a raw turnip in a period of forty eight hours.

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