

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS  
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**A972/21**

**HISTORY B (MODERN WORLD)**

**British Depth Study, 1890–1918**

**SOURCE BOOKLET**

**TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2011: Afternoon**

**DURATION: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**SUITABLE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES**

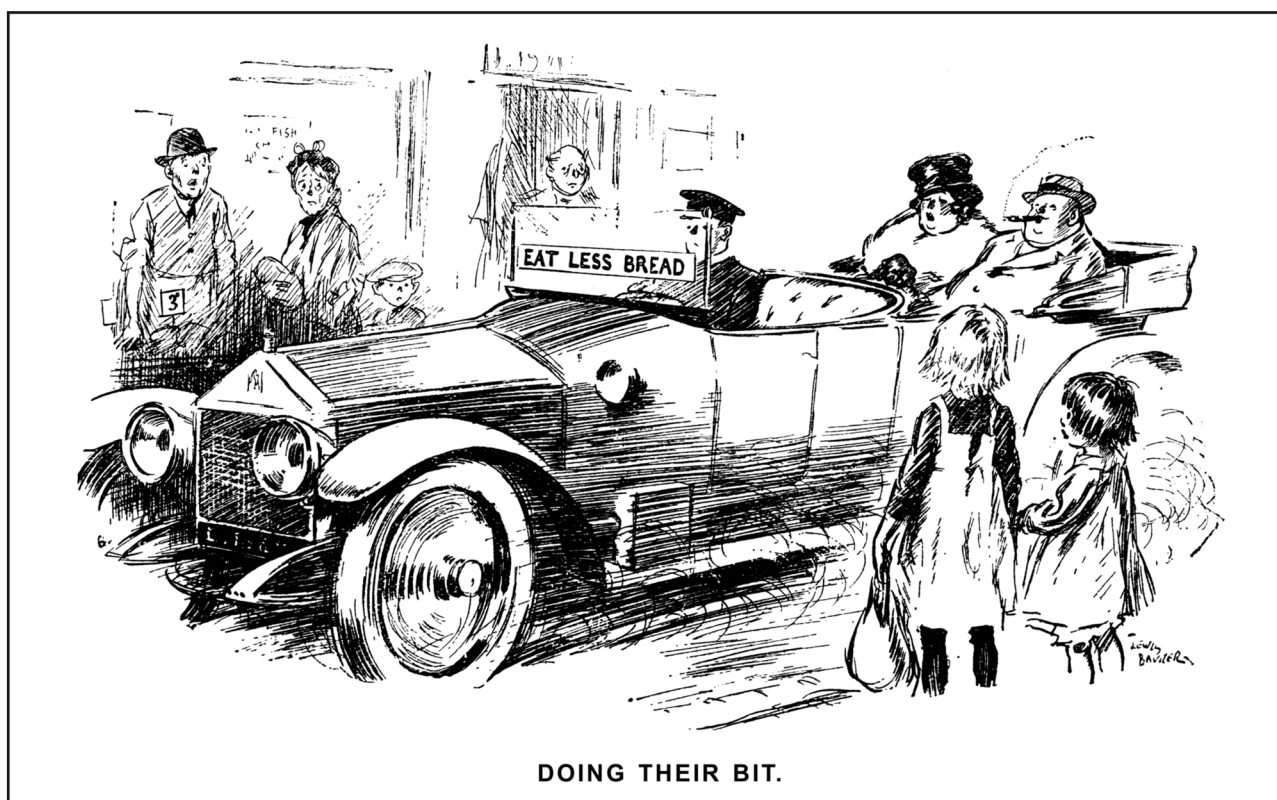
# HOW WAS BRITISH SOCIETY CHANGED, 1890–1918?

## THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR ON CIVILIANS

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the First World War the lives of civilians were greatly affected by the war. The war brought many changes to people's everyday lives. It brought hardships for some people and opportunities for others, but not all civilians were affected in the same way. So did the changes which the war brought make life better or worse for civilians?

### SOURCE A



*A cartoon about the rich from a British magazine published in 1917. It is called 'doing their bit' and shows a rich couple being driven along a street by their chauffeur.*

***They both look well-fed and the woman is wearing a fur coat and the man is smoking a large cigar. On the windscreen of their car it says 'eat less bread'. In the street, a shopkeeper and his customers are watching in surprise. They both look quite thin and tired.***

## **SOURCE B**

**I thought, I haven't got any brothers to fight in France, so I am going to do the next best thing – work on munitions, and I was quite pleased to do it. I gave it my best, I was a conscientious kind of person. We were proud of our shift. It was hard work and a bit dangerous but you never thought of that. Then one day all that changed. There was an explosion and several men and women were killed. I had some bad burns and terrible after-effects from the shock, but I was lucky really. After that my dad said I was not going back.**

***A munitions worker describing her experiences in 1917.***

**SOURCE C**



***A British government poster published in 1917. It says, 'These women are doing their bit. Learn to make munitions'. The poster shows a woman worker putting on overalls. Behind her other women are working. Artillery shell cases can be seen on the floor. A soldier waves as he walks out of the door with a rifle over his shoulder.***

## **SOURCE D**

**Dad supported the war. He volunteered for the army but they told him he would be more useful as a miner. He was a quiet, patriotic man and he did not want to go on strike especially with the war on, but he decided to go along with the majority when they came out on strike. I can't remember how long the strike lasted, but they got what they wanted. I think they were awarded two shillings a week extra and then Dad had to admit that perhaps it was worth it after all. Everyone was delighted. We even sang a song at school to celebrate the end of the strike.**

***The daughter of a coal miner describing the events of 1915 in South Wales.***

# ARE YOU IN LEAGUE WITH THE KAISER?

FOOD WASTERS,  
LUXURY USERS,  
AND BUYERS OF  
USELESS ARTICLES.

(EXTRAVAGANT ONES)  
"YES! War or no War,  
We live as Usual!"

(THE KAISER)  
"Thank you, my Friends,  
for you are indeed  
my Friends!"

NATIONAL SERVICE

***A British government poster published in 1916. It says, ‘Are you in league with the Kaiser?’ and shows the Kaiser greeting people in smart clothes who are sitting at a table smoking and drinking. These people are labelled “food wasters, luxury users and buyers of useless articles”.***

***Under the picture it says:***

***(Extravagant ones) “Yes! War or no war, We live as usual.”***

***(The Kaiser) “Thank you, my friends, for you are indeed my friends.”***

## **SOURCE F**

<b>AIR RAID 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1917 SUMMARY OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION</b>					
<b>TIME</b>	<b>PLACE</b>	<b>BOMBS DROPPED</b>	<b>CASUALTIES</b>		<b>DAMAGE</b>
			<b>Killed</b>	<b>Injured</b>	
<b>10.45pm to 11.30pm</b>	<b>Kent, Essex and London</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>120 houses Iron foundry Liverpool Street Station</b>
<b>NOTES</b>					
<b>Casualty numbers are believed to be correct but additional information may emerge in the next day or two.</b>					

***A police report on the effects of an air raid in June 1917.***

## **SOURCE G**

**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.**

*From a speech by a government minister in October 1917.*

## **SOURCE H**

**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.**

*A government report published during the war in 1918.*



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