

# What motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches?

Target Skill: Cause and Consequence

Word Limit: 850-1500 words

## EXPLANATIONS YOU NEED TO INVESTIGATE:

SOLDIERS WERE WELL CARED FOR		TRENCH CONDITIONS WERE NOT AS BAD	ARMY DISCIPLINE
COMRADESHIP	POPULAR COMMANDING OFFICERS	THE JOY OF WAR	DIFFERENT TIMES/DIFFERENT ATTITUDES

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO ACHIEVE A LEVEL:

### Level 4: (1-5 marks)

Your answer **describes** what motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches. You have **recognised** the importance of most groups of reasons and have **begun to make judgements** about which reason motivated British soldiers more. Your work is **structured in places** and you have begun to use appropriate facts, dates, terms and sources.

### Level 5: (6-12 marks)

Your answer **explains** what motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches. You have **explained** the importance of each group of reasons and have **made judgements** about which reason(s) motivated British soldiers more. You have even **begun to suggest** how some **motivations are linked**. Your work is **structured** and you have begun to use appropriate facts, dates, terms and sources.

### Level 6: (13-17 marks)

Your answer **analyses** what motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches. You have **analysed** the importance of each group of reasons and have **made substantiated judgements** about which reason(s) motivated British soldiers more. You have even **begun to explain** how some **motivations are linked**. Your work is **well-structured** and you have used appropriate facts, dates, terms and sources.

### Level 7: (18-20 marks)

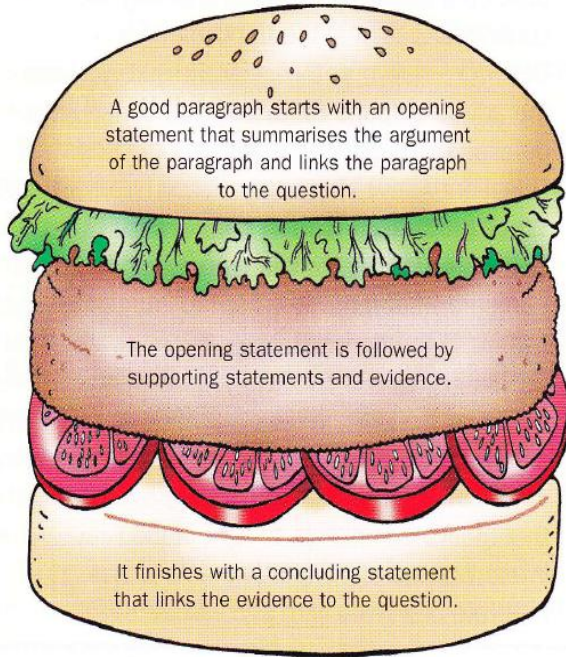
Your answer **evaluates** what motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches. You have **evaluated** the importance of each group of reasons and have **made substantiated judgements** and **original arguments** about which reason(s) motivated British soldiers more. You have even **explained well** how **motivations are linked**. Your work is **very well-structured** and you have used appropriate facts, dates, terms and sources.

**ALL WORK MUST BE ORIGINAL AND NOT COPIED. IT SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED CLEARLY.**

# Causation Essays – Building Substantiated Explanations

In Years 7 and 8 you may have used a **Hamburger Paragraph** to help you explain why things happen in history.

## Remember



You can use this approach to help you answer the Big Question of this enquiry:

**What motivated British soldiers to continue fighting in the trenches?**

## STAGE 1 Planning your answer

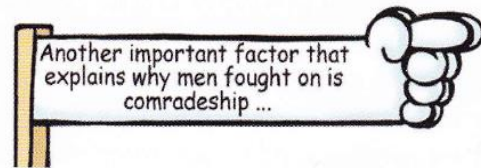
- Your answer to this question should start with an introduction.
- This should be followed by a series of hamburger paragraphs that explore the main reasons why men fought in the trenches. Each paragraph should cover **one** of the explanations listed on page 61. Make sure you give a range of explanations as to why men fought in the war. Remember – in history most events have a number of causes.
- Your answer should finish with an overall conclusion. Give your opinion. What was the *main* factor that motivated soldiers to fight? Remember – all causes are not equally important.

## STAGE 2

## Writing each paragraph

### (a) Signposting

Starting each paragraph should be straightforward. Make sure that you make it clear which factor you will be writing about. Think of your opening statement as a signpost for the rest of the paragraph.



### (b) Making the middle section even tastier!

You can make the middle section of your hamburger paragraph stronger by adding: *quotes from source material* and *specific examples* to support your opening argument and its supporting statements. This is called building a *substantiated explanation*. An example is given below.

*One of the key factors that motivated soldiers to fight was that they were well cared for.*  
(opening statement)

*The army aimed to keep morale as high as possible. A rotation system made sure that soldiers did not spend too long in the front line.*  
(supporting statement)

*For example, a battalion spent about ten days a month in the trenches. Most soldiers spent more than 60 per cent of their time behind the front lines.*  
(specific supporting example)

*In addition, the army tried to ensure that soldiers were well fed and that they received supplies of everything they needed.*  
(supporting statement)

*An extract from a letter, written in 1916 by Private Bowles supports this. He states that at times soldiers 'lived like lords. Eggs and bacon for breakfast, Welsh rarebit and tea for supper, tinned fruit and cream for tea.'*  
(supporting source material)