Edexcel GCSE

History A (The Making of the Modern World)

Unit 3: Modern World Source Enquiry
Option 3B: War and the transformation of British society, c1931–51

Wednesday 19 June 2013 – Afternoon
Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Instructions

• Use black ink or ball-point pen.
• Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
• Answer all questions.
• Answer the questions in the spaces provided — there may be more space than you need.

Information

• The total mark for this paper is 54.
• The marks for each question are shown in brackets — use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
• Questions labelled with an asterisk (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed.
• The marks available for spelling, punctuation and grammar are clearly indicated.

Advice

• Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
• Keep an eye on the time.
• Try to answer every question.
• Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Total Marks

5HA03/3B
Answer ALL questions.

Look carefully at the background information and Sources A to F in the Sources Booklet and then answer Questions 1 to 5 which follow.

1 **Study Source A.**

What can you learn from Source A about rationing in Britain during the Second World War?

(6)
2 Study Source B and use your own knowledge.

Why was this photograph widely publicised in 1941? Use details of the photograph and your own knowledge to explain your answer.

(8)
(Total for Question 2 = 8 marks)
3 Study Sources A, B and C.

How far do Sources B and C support the evidence of Source A about food supplies in Britain during the Second World War? Explain your answer, using the sources.

(10)
4 Study Sources D and E and use your own knowledge.

How useful are Sources D and E as evidence of the ‘Dig for Victory’ campaign? Explain your answer, using Sources D and E and your own knowledge.

(10)
5 Study all the sources (A to F) and use your own knowledge.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed in this question.

‘Government measures to deal with food shortages in Britain were successful during the Second World War.’

How far do the sources in this paper support this statement? Use details from the sources and your own knowledge to explain your answer.
Food supplies and rationing during the Second World War

Background information

The government had been making plans since 1936 to deal with possible food shortages during a war. In the early months of the Second World War, food rationing was introduced and the ‘Dig for Victory’ campaign began. The campaign asked every man and woman in Britain to grow vegetables in gardens and allotments. Some historians believe that these government measures to deal with food shortages were successful. Others suggest that they were not.

Source A: An extract from the diary of a 30-year-old woman, August 1941. She lived in London during the Second World War.

We think and talk about food all the time. Not because we are hungry, but because our meals are expensive and difficult to come by because of rationing. How bored I am with vegetable pie, tinned meats and boiled potatoes. What wouldn’t I give for orange juice, steak and onions, chocolate or apples and cream! I haven’t seen an egg for months in London, but many other parts of the country seem to have a reasonable supply.

Source B: A photograph published in a British newspaper in 1941. It shows a shop assistant arranging tins of meat newly arrived from the USA.

(Source: Fox Photos/Stringer © Getty Images)
Source C: From an interview in 2005 with a woman about her childhood memories of living in a village during the Second World War.

Rationing did not affect us very much, except for occasional tasteless tinned meats. We were better off for food than some people, especially those living in cities. We had a large vegetable garden and orchard and a plentiful supply of apples, pears and plums and we collected blackberries by the basketful. We also kept chickens and had lots of eggs. My father worked for a landowner and usually got rabbits, pigeons and sometimes pheasants. I also remember we ate lots of stinging nettle tops for vegetables.

Source D: A photograph published in a British newspaper in 1942. It shows firefighters working in their allotments in the centre of London.

(Source: M. McNeill/Stringer © Getty Images)

Source E: From a radio broadcast by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1944.

We can justly congratulate ourselves in what we have achieved so far in our ‘Dig for Victory’ campaign. But we must on no account relax our efforts. The war is not yet won. Even if the war were to end sooner than we expect, the food situation might not become easier. It might actually become more difficult. There would be an urgent need to feed the starving people of Europe. Carry on therefore with your good work. Do not rest on your spades!

Source F is on page 4.
Despite the hardships caused by rationing, the people of Britain were healthier than before the war. They had a more balanced diet, even if it was rather boring. The ‘Dig for Victory’ campaign led to twice the number of allotments by 1943. However, the effects of rationing and shortages were different in different areas and even for different families. Very large families with a large number of ration books did not suffer from shortages in the same way as smaller families. Meat and vegetables were much easier to come by in the countryside.