



Fiction and None Fiction in the Great War:

Hypothesis: *'Our view of the Great War has been shaped more by fiction than by non-fiction.'*

Aims:

- Explore the link between fiction and collective memory.
- Explore the concept of multiple truths.
- Determine caveats for fiction and non-fiction sources.

Definitions of the issues:

Theme 1. Memory and representations.

Task 1: With a partner list as many 'fiction' genres as you can:

Task 2: List 3 things that can affect our understanding of fiction?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Task 3: List as many authors/ writers as you can with connections to the Great War.

Fiction:	Non fiction:

Summary of three popular assumptions about the Great War:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Alternative Sources-Non-Fiction:

Task 4. In the first box list 2 adjectives that describe (for you) Great War officers.

First box	Second box

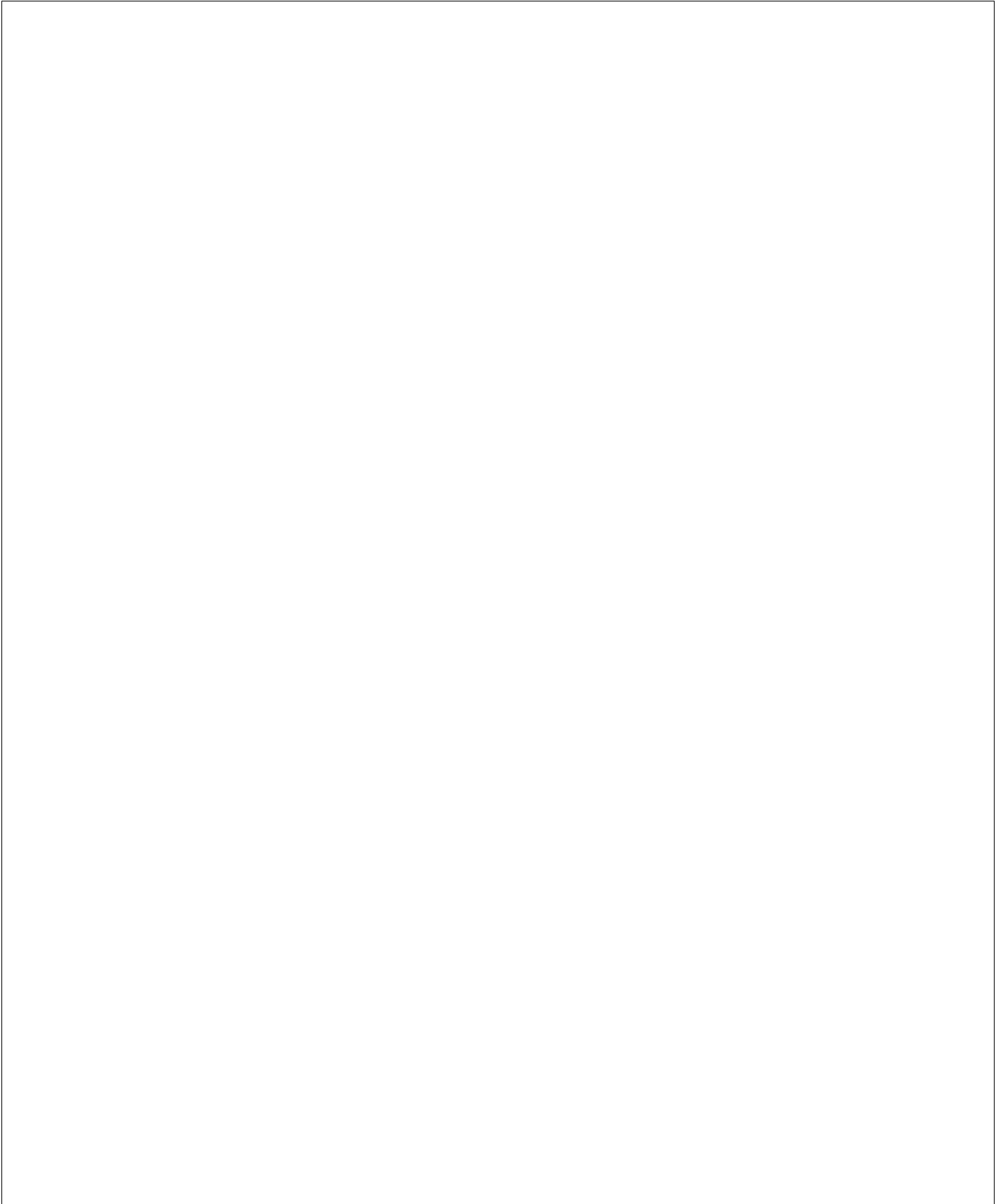
Task 5: What are the caveats of fiction and non-fiction. In other words what are the warnings we need to heed when dealing with both? How can these caveats affect our understanding of 'truth'?

Fiction	Non-fiction

Fiction Genres	Sentiment	Character portrayal	Tactics/ war conduct	Officer portrayal	Connecting ideas/ assumptions/ views
Sassoon's Poems					
Blackadder					
Gallipoli/ Trench					
Journey's End					
Strange Meeting					

Non-Fiction Sources	Authors intention/ argument	Tactics/ war conduct officer portrayal	Additional notes
General Jack's Diary			
Evolution of Victory			
Haig			
Forgotten Victory			
S.S 143			
With The Machine Gunners in France and Palestine			

Conclusions:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to write their conclusions.

Leadership Exercise...

It is 1918. You are the Commander of the 217th Brigade. You have 3000 fighting men under your command. The last time the brigade fought these points were noticed.

1. The ordinary soldiers lacked decision when in attack.
2. The soldiers lacked positive morale
3. The soldiers were in poor condition and were tired.
4. The frontline/attack trenches were in a bad state of repair
5. There was not an effective communication system to let the commanders know when the enemy trenches were captured. (You do not have radio and only a cabled telephone)
6. Too many officers were killed because the Germans saw that they had different uniforms to the other soldiers.

What would you do about these points?