



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

## Wednesday 14 June 2017 – Afternoon

### GCSE HISTORY A (SCHOOLS HISTORY PROJECT)

#### A955/21 Historical Source Investigation

A Study in British History: Public Health in Britain, 1800–1914



Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

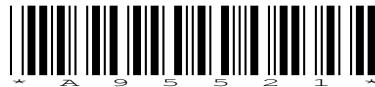
**OCR supplied materials:**

- 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12)  
(sent with general stationery)

**Other materials required:**

None

**Duration:** 1 hour 30 minutes



#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Study the sources carefully. You should spend at least **ten minutes** doing this.
- Write the numbers of the questions you have answered in the box on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **53**.
- This document consists of **6** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.
- Questions marked with a pencil (✉) will carry 3 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

**FOLD OUT THIS PAGE**

**Study the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.**

**In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of British Public Health, 1800–1914 to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.**

**Your answer to Question 5 should be largely based on your knowledge of British Public Health, 1800–1914, but you must also use the sources.**

**Answer ALL the questions.**

**1 Study Source A.**

How useful is this source as evidence about public health in the first half of the nineteenth century? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

**2 Study Sources B and C.**

Do these sources prove that there had been no progress in public health in Britain between 1844 and 1863? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

**3 Study Sources D and E.**

Why do these two sources disagree? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[9]**

**4 Study Source F.**

Why was this source published? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[9]**

**5 Study all the sources, A–F.**

‘The reason why it took so long to improve people’s health between 1800 and 1914, was because the people who had the power to improve it blamed the problems on the poor themselves.’

How far do you agree with this interpretation? Use your knowledge of British Public Health, 1800–1914 and the sources to explain your answer. **[16]**

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[3]**

**Paper total: [53]**

## A Study in British History: Public Health in Britain, 1800–1914

### Why did it take so long to improve public health?

#### SOURCE A

The state of the streets powerfully affects the health of those who live in them. Cases of typhus mainly appear in streets which are narrow, badly ventilated, unpaved and which contain heaps of refuse. The houses are unclean and have very little furniture. They are often falling to pieces, badly drained and damp. The people that live in these houses have very bad habits. Terrible dirt, together with such bad habits, produce disease.

*A report about the living conditions of cotton workers in Manchester by Dr James Kay in 1832.*

#### SOURCE B

A proposal was made for the complete sewerage of the streets. I was present for nearly six hours of this debate. The main argument put forward by those who opposed the proposals concerned how to save the pockets of the ratepayers with very little regard for the effects on the sanitary condition of the population. A second plan was proposed to cut down the costs. The main sewers in this plan were designed to empty their contents into the river at several points, thereby continuing the pollution.

*From a report on the condition of Leeds by James Smith in 1844.*

#### SOURCE C

In 1855, the death rate was 24 per 1000. In 1862, it had risen to 29 per 1000. The responsibility for this loss of life rests mainly on the Council because they have the power to prevent it. The Council has the power to insist that all houses are connected with new drainage but the builders are still allowed to get away with throwing up terrible buildings. This is because the Council (and the voters who vote for them) are usually the owners of the property which is in need of improvement. Every pound the Council provide for drainage is taken out of the pockets of the property owners.

*From a report on 'The Working Classes of Leeds', published as a book in 1863.*

#### SOURCE D

I have tried to measure the influence which poverty has on the health of the community. The high death rate amongst the very poor is more than twice as high as in the best working class districts. A high death rate implies a low standard of general health, and much sickness and suffering which is not registered.

*'Poverty: A Study of Town Life', by Seebohm Rowntree, 1901.*

#### SOURCE E

It is certain that some of the earnings which might go to buy essential items are being thrown away. Mr Rowntree describes how much money is being spent on betting in York. It is also true that just as much money is being spent in public houses on drink. He says there is much poverty in York, but the word poverty should not be applied to people who might live in comfort if they did not waste so much money on betting and drink.

*From The Times in 1901.*

*The Times was a newspaper that was read by the wealthier sections of society.*

## SOURCE F



The child: "Mum, that fat man is eating up all our food again to-day!" The mother: "Yes, darling, but we must do our share towards keeping up his strength. He has promised to cure us of gout - when we get it!"

*A cartoon about the National Insurance Act of 1911, published in the The Daily Herald in 1912.*

*Gout was a disease that affected the rich.*

*The Daily Herald was a newspaper that supported the Labour Party.*

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**



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