

Unit

5

Fighting and surviving at Anzac

OVERVIEW

| Focus question | DVD-VIDEO connections | DVD-ROM interactives connection |
|---|--|---|
| 1 What was life like for the soldiers at Gallipoli? | <i>Revealing Gallipoli</i> 15:16-20:12 (Part 2 Chapter 5) <i>Australians at War</i> Episode 2 'Who'll come a fighting the Kaiser with me' 26:20-30:55 (Chapter 6) | <i>The story of Private Jim Martin</i> <i>Who were the nurses in the Gallipoli campaign?</i> <i>The Gallipoli Times</i> |

When we commemorate Anzac Day it may be that almost all the emphasis is on the events of one day, 25 April 1915. However, the campaign on the Gallipoli peninsula lasted for 260 days. What happened on those other days? You may have already completed Unit 4, where some of the significant battles that occurred during this time are explored. But what happened during the times when no significant fighting took place? In this unit you will investigate what 'normal' life was like on Gallipoli for the Anzacs.



1

What was life like for the soldiers at Gallipoli?

When you are looking at an historical photograph there are two important questions to ask:

- 1 What does it show? Describe what you see — the facts.
- 2 What does it mean? What are these facts telling you; their message or meaning?

Discuss this photograph with your classmates, and answer the two questions.

Pages 66–68 provide a way you can summarise information about what life was like at Anzac, but before you look at this table, look at the next page for more discussion of the photograph below.



AWM HC0267

In answering 'What does it show?' for the photograph on page 64, you probably included such things as:

- it shows three men;
- one has a pipe in his mouth;
- they are wearing bits of uniform;
- the sun is shining;
- there is a cross in the foreground, there seems to be washing hanging in the background

— and so on.

For 'What does it mean?' you may have decided that:

- it is hot (probably summer);
- the men are resting rather than fighting;
- perhaps they have something to do with gathering or burying the dead;
- there was no emphasis on uniform at Gallipoli;
- the men are typical fit, healthy diggers;
- they are in a rear part of the battlefield where there is no danger

— and so on.

You have used your observations to create interpretations.

The photograph tells you a lot, but there is also a lot that it does not tell you. Imagine that you could talk to these three men. What would you now like to know about them? Your questions might be about the nature of the fighting, or how they felt about what they were doing, what their attitude was to the enemy, what the food was like, and so on.

1.1 List some questions that you would ask them about their life and experiences on Gallipoli.

How can you find out the answers to the questions?

To answer the questions that this photograph has raised you need to look at evidence, and you need to interpret it.

The following Resource Pages contain a variety of evidence:


- written accounts in soldiers' diaries and letters;
- photographs;
- drawings and paintings, some from the time, and others made after the events; and
- accounts of participants' experiences recorded well after the events.

OBSERVATIONS

Washing on the line

One has a pipe

Their uniforms look old and informal



3 men

INTERPRETATIONS

The men are resting not fighting

It is hot, probably summer

They are in a safe place

They seem fit and healthy

Uniform was not important at Gallipoli

Their job may have something to do with burying the dead

For each piece of evidence you need to decide:

- What it shows or says (the facts).
- What it means (interpreting the facts to understand the messages or meanings).

The table on pages 66-68, Soldiers' Life on Anzac, lists a number of aspects of daily life on Anzac, and includes questions that will help you explore those aspects for the soldiers and nurses involved — Australian, New Zealand and Turkish. The Resource pages following it provide a variety of evidence to help you answer those questions.

This task can best be done by groups cooperating to divide and share the information. Each group in your class should be responsible for reading one or more of the Resource pages of evidence, discussing what the evidence tells you, deciding which of the questions in the table the Resource page helps you to answer, and reporting on that to the whole class. In this way all members of the class can complete their own copy of the table without having to read all the evidence pages.

The Soldiers' Life on Anzac

| Aspect of life on Gallipoli | Questions | Notes | Answer |
|-----------------------------|--|-------|--------|
| Animals | What animals were there? What were their roles? | | |
| 'Boy' soldiers | Were there 'boy soldiers' at Gallipoli? If so, how could they have been allowed to be part of the war? | | |
| Climate and weather | What were the climate and weather like? How did they affect the soldiers' experience? | | |
| Dug outs | What was shelter like for the soldiers at Anzac? | | |
| Fatigues | What was involved in fatigue or work parties? | | |
| Fighting | What was the fighting like at Anzac? | | |
| Food | What food was available to the soldiers? What variety, and how nutritious? | | |

| Aspect of life on Gallipoli | Questions | Notes | Answer |
|---|--|-------|--------|
| Health, hygiene and disease | Were the conditions hygienic? Did this affect the soldiers' health? | | |
| Medical treatment | What was the medical support like for the wounded and ill? | | |
| Nurses | What was life like for the nurses on the hospital ships and the hospitals at Lemnos? | | |
| Other nations | Who else other than Australians, New Zealanders and Turks were at Anzac? | | |
| Religion | What was the role of religious leaders on Gallipoli? How did men observe their religion? | | |
| Resting | How did soldiers rest at Anzac? | | |
| Snipers | What was the role of snipers on both sides? How did soldiers react to them? | | |
| Soldiers' attitudes to the enemy | What was the attitude to the enemy? | | |

| Aspect of life on Gallipoli | Questions | Notes | Answer |
|--|---|-------|--------|
| Soldiers' attitudes and responses to the situation on Anzac | How did soldiers feel about the experience? | | |
| Stretcher bearers | What was the role of the stretcher bearers? How dangerous was it? | | |
| Supplies | What supplies were available to the soldiers? How did the soldiers get their supplies? | | |
| The Turkish soldiers | What were the Turkish soldiers like? | | |
| Trenches | What were conditions like in the trenches? | | |
| Water | How was water supplied to the soldiers? | | |
| Weapons | What were the main weapons available at Anzac? | | |

Resource Page 1

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 1.1 Corporal JB Bell

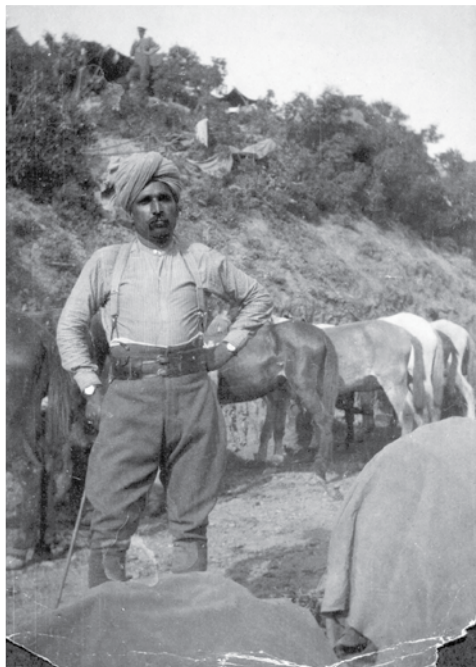
I killed my first Turk on Saturday. I was firing at a sandbag in the Turkish parapet ... and, to my surprise, I saw a man jump in the air and fall. It was just this Turk's bad luck ... Anyway, this is what I am here for.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 116

Source 1.2 Trooper IL Idriess

[I]mmediately I opened. ... [my tin of jam] the flies rushed [it] ... all fighting amongst themselves. I wrapped my overcoat over the tin and gouged out the flies, spread the biscuit, held my hand over it and drew the biscuit out of the coat. But a lot of flies flew into my mouth and beat about inside. ... I nearly howled with rage. ... Of all the bastards of places this is the greatest bastard in the world.

Bill Gammage, page 88

Source 1.3 An Indian mule handler at Gallipoli

AWM P00229.004

Source 1.4 Private ECN Devlin

They are lucky who get away from here wounded. ... It is quite common for men to go mad here. The strain on the nerves is so severe.

Bill Gammage, page 87

Source 1.5 A soldier's sketch at Gallipoli titled 'Winter'

NC Wimbush, 'Gawd help the first flamin' Turk! see to-night!', 1915, pen and ink on paper, 24 x 11.9 cm, AWM ART00033

Source 1.6 Private ECN Devlin

We had our swim during the afternoon and how we did enjoy it. It is a rather weird experience swimming with the shrapnel bursting all around one, and yet one would rather do that than go without the only means of getting a wash.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 260

Source 1.7 Sergeant AL de Vine

[T]he time [during the May truce to collect and bury the dead] was taken up by making friends with the Turks, who do not seem to be a very bad sort of chap after all ... After today most of our opinions on the Turks were changed ...

Bill Gammage, page 103

Source 1.8 Private T Usher

You can't imagine what it was like, the filthy conditions, and especially using those latrines with all those paper (for cleaning) blowing all over the shop. And flies! Look, you'd open the tin and there'd be millions of them, crikey, filthy, filthy conditions ...

Harvey Broadbent, *The Boys Who Came Home*, ABC, Penguin, Melbourne, 2009, page 198

For each of these sources:

- Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 2.1 Lance Corporal W Francis

... up the hill ... we swarm ... the lust to kill is on us, we see red. Into one trench, out of it, and into another. Oh! The bloody gorgeousness of feeling your bayonet go into soft yielding flesh – they run, we after them, no thrust one and parry, in goes the bayonet the handiest way.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 109

Source 2.2 Captain F Coen

I have not had a wash now for 4 weeks, nor had my clothes off. I accomplish my toilet with the corner of a towel steeped in a 2 ounce tobacco tin. Water for washing purposes is out of the question.

Bill Gammage, page 88

Source 2.3 Lieutenant Gordon Harper

We went to Communion (everyone who is there does) and sang hymns. Some of the Maoris were there too and sang with great vigour and said their prayers aloud in Maori, while a little way off some pious Indians, Mohammedans, were flattening themselves out towards the sun and invoking the same 'Allah' as the Turks.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 258

Source 2.4 Dogs in harness to transport a British machine gun



AWM P02906.002

Source 2.5 Water detail



AWM A01818

Source 2.6 Captain Mehmet Hilmi Sanlitop

No one will bother with dead and the wounded. If I die walk over me and just pass. And if I get wounded, pay no attention. I will do the same with you. Those who will replace the wounded and the dead have been determined. Don't expect any rewards in war.

Tolga Örnek and Feza Tokur, *Gallipoli. The Front Line Experience*, Currency Press, Strawberry Hills, 2005, page 7

Source 2.7 Private John Gammage

The wounded bodies of both Turks and our own ... were piled up 3 and 4 deep ... the bombs simply poured in but as fast as our men went down another would take his place. Besides our own wounded the Turks' wounded lying in our trench were cut to pieces with their own bombs. We had no time to think of our wounded ... their pleas for mercy were not heeded ... Some poor fellows lay for 30 hours waiting for help and many died still waiting.

Les Carlyon, *Gallipoli*, Macmillan, Sydney, 2001, page 360

Source 2.8 CEW Bean, War correspondent and Official War Historian

A single Turk jumped up like a rabbit, threw away his rifle and tried to escape. The nearest man could not fire as his rifle was full of sand. He bayoneted the Turk through his haversack and captured him. 'Prisoner here!' he shouted. 'Shoot the bastard!' was all the notice they received from others passing up the hill. But as in every battle he fought in the Australian soldier was more humane than in his words. The Turk was sent down to the beach in charge of a wounded man.

The Story of Anzac, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, 1941, pages 258–9

Source 2.9 Colonel AG Butler, Official Medical Historian

Men who were just skin and bone; hands, arms and legs covered with septic sores; ill with dysentery; had to work in the trenches on bully-beef, bacon and biscuits.

The Australian Army Medical Services in the War of 1914–1918, Vol 1, 'The Gallipoli Campaign', Angus & Robertson, Melbourne, 1930, page 352

For each of these sources:

- Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 3.1 CEW Bean, War correspondent and Official War Historian

Stretcher-bearers are always exposed to ... fire in the ordinary course of carrying out their ... duty, as is everyone else. ... Wherever there is a wounded man to be got, there the stretcher-bearers have gone.

Official despatch, *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, No 79, 26 July 1915, page 1635

Source 3.2 A British Major in the Indian Mule Corps at Gallipoli

The Turks opened with shrapnel ... right into the middle of the mule camp. Everybody went to ground as far as possible, but cover was inadequate, and men and animals began to fall ... the fire was deadly accurate, and before the safety could be reached eighty-nine mules and two horses had been hit ... and ... Indians and several Australians were casualties. Many mules were killed outright, and many others lay where they had fallen, unable to rise: those had to be shot, and that evening the beach was strewn with dead animals – a pitiful sight.

H M Alexander, *On Two Fronts*, London, 1917, pages 170–171

Source 3.3 2nd Lieutenant CW Saunders

[A friend] came back from Lemnos and brought me a dozen eggs and [we] settled them at one gulp — it was great. The naval men get eggs and condensed milk from Imbros and [sell] it on the beaches [at inflated prices] ... so they make money.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 256

Source 3.4 A trench after an attack



AWM A04029



AWM J02442

Source 3.5 Turkish prisoners

Source 3.6 CEW Bean, War correspondent and Official War Historian

You must not imagine that life in one of these year-long modern battles consists of continuous bomb fighting, bayoneting and bombarding all the time ... [the] chief occupation is the digging of mile upon mile of endless sap [trench], of sunken road ... The carrying of biscuit boxes and building timbers for hours daily ... the sweeping and disinfecting of trenches in the never ending battle against flies – this is the soldier's life for nine days out of ten in a modern battle.

Dispatch, *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, 2 December 1915, page 3058

Source 3.7 Trooper IL Idriess

... This is the most infernally uncomfortable line of trenches we have ever been in ... We are ... "resting", about fifty yards back of the firing-trench. For a couple of hours, to rest our nerves, they say. There forty-eight of us in this particular spot, just an eighteen-inch-wide trench with iron overhead supports sandbagged as protection against bombs. We are supposed to be "sleeping", preparatory to our next watch. Sleeping! Hell and tommy! Maggots are crawling down the trench; it stinks like an unburied graveyard; it is dark; the air is stagnant; some of the new hands are violently sick from watching us trying to eat. We are so crowded that I can hardly write in the diary even ... Bombs are crashing outside ... The roof of this dashed posy is intermixed with dead men who were chucked up on the parapet to give the living a chance from the bullets while the trench was being dug. What ho, for the Glories of War.

Ion Idriess, *The Desert Column*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1982, page 42

Source 3.8 Lieutenant Norman King Wilson

We knew a great fight was going on...yet it was a shock to me when four lighters pulled up alongside and we saw the poor shattered figures, with bloody bandages, grimy faces and dirty clothes who were crowded together below us...men were dying every minute, and one (medical officer) was utterly lost amongst the multitude needing his care.' (The ship was badly over crowded) but lighters kept coming alongside with their burden of suffering humanity and that man in charge would shout – 'For God's sake take this lot on, we've been going about from ship to ship and no one will have us, and more men are dying.' We worked, one and all, until we could no longer tell what we were seeing or doing, all day and all night, picking out the cases where the dreaded gangrene had set in, and where immediate and high amputation was the only hope of saving life. Even the clean open decks stank with the horrid smell of gangrenous flesh...The operating room... was a stinking, bloody shambles (where amputations were carried out in a couple of minutes), the limb thrown into a basket with many others, awaiting incineration – (so producing another) poor victim, a maimed testimonial to his life's end of the brutality and savagery of war...The whole voyage was a nightmare.

John Robertson, *Anzac and Empire*, Hamlyn Australia, Melbourne, 1990, page 206

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 4.1 Mules carrying supplies



AWM P02282.024

Source 4.2 Food sources drawn by a soldier on Anzac



The Anzac Book, Cassell and Company, Ltd, London, 1916, facing page 164

Source 4.3 Stretcher bearers



AWM A05784

Source 4.4 CEW Bean, War correspondent and Official War Historian

But one by one the men who were catching bombs were mutilated. Wright clutched one which burst in his face and killed him. Webb ... continued to catch them, but presently both his hands were blown away ... At one moment several bombs burst simultaneously in Tubb's recess. Four men were killed or wounded; a fifth was blown down and his rifle shattered. Tubb, bleeding from bomb-wounds in arm and scalp, continued to fight, supported in the end only by ... Corporal Dunstan, and ... Corporal Burton ... At this stage there occurred at the barricade a violent explosion, which threw back the defenders and tumbled down the sandbags ... Tubb, however, drove them off, and Dunstan and Burton were helping to rebuild the barrier when a bomb fell between them, killing Burton and temporarily blinding his comrade. Tubb obtained further men from the next post ... but the enemy's attack weakened, the Turks continued to bomb and fire rifles into the air, but never again attempting to rush the barricade.

[Burton, Tubb and Dunstan were all awarded the VC for this action at Lone Pine on 9 August 1915] *The Story of Anzac*, Vol 2, Angus and Robertson, Sydney, 1924, pages 560-561

Source 4.5 Private James Charles (Jim) Martin

He is thought to be the youngest Australian to have died on active service.

He was born in the Melbourne suburb of Hawthorn, on 3 January 1901 and, having just left school to work as a farmhand, enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in April 1915 at the age of 14 years and 3 months. He told the recruiting officers that he was 18.

In late August, he embarked for Gallipoli on the steamer HMT Southland, 'to have our share of the Turks', he wrote. When the ship was torpedoed by a German submarine off Lemnos Island, he spent four hours in the water before being rescued.

Private Martin landed with his battalion on Gallipoli on 8 September 1915 ... He wrote to his family that the "Turks are still about 70 yards away from us" and asked them not to worry about him as "I am doing splendid over here". But on 25 October he was evacuated to the hospital ship Glenart Castle suffering from typhoid fever caught in the trenches. He died of heart failure that evening. He was buried at sea ... Over twenty other Australians under the age of 18 died in the First World War.

www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/boysoldiers.asp

Source 4.6 Private Jim Martin



AWM P00069.001

Resource Page 5

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 5.1 A sniper team

AWM A05767

Source 5.2 Goats being brought in as food for Indian troops at Gallipoli

AWM A02037

Source 5.3 Lieutenant TD McLeod

'I had a narrow shave ... as a bullet caught me across the back, only made a flesh wound, we gave the Turk a hot time... I enjoy the life and like all the men am well and happy'.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 75

Source 5.4 Lieutenant EW Pilling

Friday 11 June was a notable day, as on it we received our first issue of bread since landing nearly two months ago.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 255

Source 5.5 Private FW Muir

About 60 in all ... in silence lined up along the parapet. Suddenly a whistle blast sounded & we were over the parapet & towards the enemy's trench. We fixed bayonets as we ran tripping over our own barbed wire & other obstacles. At first not a shot was fired by the enemy but just as the first of our men reached the trench the alarm was given and a murderous fire from rifles and machines guns broke out. We found the trench very strong with a firm sandbagged parapet studded with loopholes ... [and] a strong overhead cover ... with bayonets projecting ... which we could not shift. In addition the Turks threw a number of bombs with good effect ... we were forced to retire amid a heavy fire having however put the machine gun out of action ... the whole affair occupied only some 10 minutes but nearly every second man was injured the total Casualties 27 wounded 5 killed.

Bill Gammage, page 74

Source 5.6 Lieutenant TJ Richards

It seems to me that war such as read about and glory in, such as honest open hand-to-hand or man-to-man conflicts where the bravest man gets the upper hand, where the strongest arm and the noble heart wins the honour and gratification of the country is old fashioned and out of date, like the flintlock rifle and the broad sword.

Bill Gammage, page 77

Source 5.7 Sergeant MJ Ranford

'There is no doubt war is hell, and the men who are responsible ought to frizzle there for all eternity; but mind you I am just as keen on serving my country as ever, and would not miss seeing it out (or until I go out) for any consideration.'

Bill Gammage, page 79

Source 5.8 Private Ahmet Mucip

Darkness fell over the ... whole area. Hundreds of British boys were lying on our land never to open their eyes again ... These boys with clean-shaven and endearing faces were curled up in their blood-stained uniforms. Their sight aroused in us feelings of both revenge and compassion.

Tolga Örnek and Feza Toker, *Gallipoli. The Front Line Experience*, Currency Press, Strawberry Hills, 2005, page 35

Source 5.9 Private CA McNulty

There artillery are replying now & shells are beginning to rain on us. They are getting the range now, shelling the support trenches. Men are beginning to drop ... [T]he fumes are suffocating, the shrapnel is pouring all round us getting chaps everywhere. This is hell waiting here ... Word given to get ready to charge must finish, hope to get through alright.

Bill Gammage, page 81

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 6.1 Preparing a meal in a trench



AWM A00718

Source 6.2 In a trench



AWM A05402

Source 6.3 Sergeant AL de Vine

The stench of the dead bodies now is simply awful, as they have been fully exposed to the sun for several days, many have swollen terribly and have burst...many men wear gas protectors...there has been no attempt up to the present to either remove or bury [the dead], they are stacked out of the way in any convenient place ...

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 83

Source 6.4 2nd Lieutenant CDD St Pinnock

You can imagine what it was like. Really too awful to write about. All your pals that had been with you for months and months blown and shot out of all recognition. There was no chance whatsoever of us gaining our point, but the roll call after was the saddest, just fancy only 47 answered their names out of close on 550 men. When I heard what the result was I simply cried like a child.

Bill Gammage, page 87

Source 6.5 Lieutenant FH Semple

One of the greatest difficulties here is the shortage of water...I had...the first (shave) for a week and my face was coated with the dust and grime I had got through all the recent fighting and trench digging. After I had finished the water in my mess tin...(was) muddy...and I washed my face in that and...(then) had my tea out of the same tin.

Bill Gammage, page 88

Source 6.6 Private PS Jackson

I had the misfortune to break another tooth a couple of days ago a good back tooth...when I was trying to bite through a particularly hard biscuit.

Bill Gammage, page 88

Source 6.7 Lieutenant RC Hunter

A wash would be a great luxury, lice and flies...(are) in everything, I wear my clothes inside out every few days, but still the brutes are scratched for.

Bill Gammage, page 88

Source 6.8 Captain DG Campbell

The worst things here (Turks excepted) are the flies in millions, lice...& everlasting bully-beef & biscuit, & too little water. Also it will be a good thing when we get a chance to bury some of the dead.

Bill Gammage, page 89

Resource Page 7

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 7.1 Dugouts on a hill**Source 7.2** Winter**Source 7.3** Gunner RJ Wait

While helping Moonie to dig his dug-out Gunner Richardson was unfortunate to stop a bullet in his side, he died within half an hour, just as the doctor arrived ... We have got used to this now and apart from being sorry that another of our mates has had to leave us, these scenes affect us but little. His wound is bound, his [identity] disc taken off, his uniform placed over him after all papers etc. have been taken out, he is then wrapped up in his blanket and pinned in. He lies just a little way off the main track along the cliff for all to see. The Minister arrives, were fortunate in being able to get one on this occasion, we desert the guns for a few minutes and crawl along to the shallow grave dug earlier in the day by volunteers, to pay our respects to the dead. We have to lie or sit under cover so that the enemy may not 'spot' us and let fly. We gather round the grave ... [and] lower him into his last resting place. The Chaplain speaks, all's over.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, pages 203-206

Source 7.4 Major WT Mundell

[If] Johnie Turk was to declare the war over tomorrow I would be the happiest man on earth. I've had quite enough. IF you ever catch me looking for gore again – well you can kick me.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 91

Source 7.5 Captain DG Mitchell

[I am thinking of] a land of sunshine warmth and happiness – a land of sweet scents and bright colours – home. But the track home is through a winding trail of smoke and blood, stench and torment. How many of us will reach there unbroken?

Bill Gammage, page 91

Source 7.6 Captain WH Sheppard

My word war is a horror alright, until one comes right into it & sees the real thing he has no idea of what it means, glorious charges, magnificent defences, heroic efforts in this or that direction all boil down to the one thing, the pitting of human beings against the most scientific machinery & the result can be seen in the papers.

Bill Gammage, page 93

Source 7.7 Captain HF Curnow

Abdul is only about 60 to 200 yards off... We snipe at him and he snipes at us... This 'sit-down' style of warfare is different to what any of us anticipated. Nevertheless we are here as a garrison with a definite duty before us. We are hoping hourly that we may be attacked but the Turk is about as cautious as we are.

Bill Gammage, page 93

AWM H00474A

AWM C5238

Source 7.8 Sergeant AA Barwick

I shot 3 snipers dead to-day, they were picking off our poor fellows who were hobbling down to the dressing stations, the first one I killed I took his belt off to keep as a souvenir of my first kill with the rifle. The other two I laid out beautifully I felt a lot more satisfied after that for I had got even.

Bill Gammage, page 101

Source 7.9 Private Ismail Hakki Sunata

I don't know these British soldiers, and they do not know me. What can I say to those who made us come here and kill each other? I have sworn that I will not fire a single bullet without reason.

Toİga Örnek and Feza Toker, *Gallipoli. The Front Line Experience*, Currency Press, Strawberry Hills, 2005, page 103

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 8.1 In a New Zealand trench



AWM G00377

Source 8.4 Boy soldiers

Lance Corporal John Auguste Emile Harris from Waverley, Sydney, was a clerk before the war. Official records show that he was 18 when he was killed in action at Lone Pine, Gallipoli in August 1915. John enlisted in June 1915, two months before he died, and gained the rank of Lance Corporal. His father writes after the war that John was 15 years and 10 months when he died.

Private Alexander Joseph Hearn from Campsie, NSW, was a tailor's apprentice before the war. Official records show that he was 18 when he died of wounds received on Gallipoli in August 1915. Joseph arrived in Australia [from this area] in England aged 15 years and five months, and enlisted in November 1914. According to his mother, writing after the war, he was considered to be the youngest soldier to leave with the NSW contingents. He was 16 years and 8 months when he died.

www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/boysoldiers.asp

Source 8.2 A captured Turkish sniper



AWM C01157

Source 8.5 2nd Lieutenant CW Saunders

The actual fighting at Anzac was easiest of all. The fatigue work was enormous, colossal. Imagine a man with two kerosene tins full of water tied together with a belt and slung over the shoulder climbing for [800 metres] up these grades, slipping back, up and on again, the heat of the sun terrible, bullets and shells everywhere, and, as often happened, a bullet and shrapnel hitting the tins and bursting it and the priceless fluid running away just as he had scrambled almost to the top. Nothing for it but to go all the way down again for some more. No, I think everyone who was at Anzac will agree with me that the hardest fighting done there was by the water and rations fatigue.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 224

Source 8.3 Lieutenant FC Yeadon

[A] lot of our men went down, but one never stops to think of them or oneself it is just a matter of keeping a few men together & go on so as to keep the front line intact... I used often to think what sort of feeling it would be to kill anybody, but now it is a matter of who is going under first, the Turk or yourself & you just... let him have the bayonet right through, but 'oh' the misery & cruelty of the whole thing, 'but a soldier does not want any sentiment.' The look on the poor devils when cornered & a bit of steel about a foot off in the hands of a tempary mad man, because the lust for killing seems very strong.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 108

Source 8.6 Sergeant AA Barwick

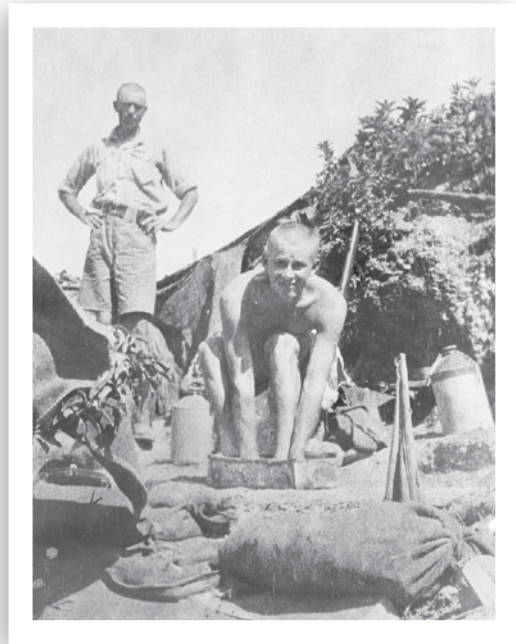
I saw several men sacrifice themselves here, they went to certain death, one chap in particular I remember... we were chasing some Turks round a little sap & they reached the bend first, everyone knew the first man round the corner was a dead one, but this chap never hesitated, he threw himself fair at them, & six fired together, & fairly riddled him with bullets, that was our chance & we into them, & it was all over in a few minutes.

Bill Gammage, page 113

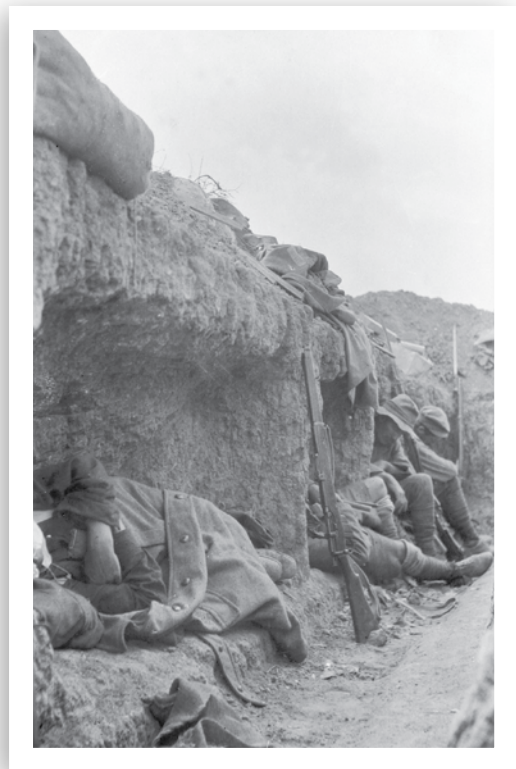
Resource Page 9

For each of these sources:

- Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 9.1 Washing

AWM C01829

Source 9.2 NZ soldiers resting in a trench

AWM G01217

Source 9.3 Lieutenant JH Dietze

The Dead were four & five deep & we had to walk over them: it was just like walking on a cushion... I daresay you will be surprised how callous a man becomes: a man may have a very close chum well if somebody tells him his chum is killed all he says is – 'poor chap' – & he forgets all about him'.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 118

Source 9.4 Lieutenant Colonel PC Fenwick

The Turkish officers [at the armistice in May to bury the dead] were charming. The Germans were rude and dictatorial and accused us of digging trenches. I lost my temper (and my German) and told them the corpses were so decomposed that they could not be lifted and our men were merely digging pits to put the awful things into ... The Turkish medico was extremely nice. We exchanged cigarettes and I said to him I hoped after the war we should smoke a cigarette — I cut short suddenly, for I was going to say 'in Constantinople', but he smiled and bowed and it was all right. I pray God I may never see such an awful sight again. I got back deadly sick and ... lay down. I shall certainly have eternal nightmares. If this is war, I trust N.Z. will never be fool enough to forget that to avoid war one must be too strong to invite war.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 228

Source 9.5 Lieutenant HE Moody

The Turks have beaten us... Tonights... the last night at Anzac... it hurts to have to leave that place. I... was undoubtedly sick of it and needed a rest, but... to absolutely chuck the whole thing cuts right in. And I'm damned if they can say the Australians failed to do what was asked of them. They did everything... more than they were asked.

Bill Gammage, page 122

Source 9.6 Sergeant Cyril Lawrence

It's absolutely piteous to see great sturdy bushmen and miners almost unable to walk through sheer weakness [from diarrhoea] ... We are all the same, all suffering from sheer physical weakness.

Peter Pedersen, *The Anzacs*, Viking, Melbourne, 2007, page 86

Source 9.7 Lieutenant Edgar Worrall

WOULD NOT HAVE MISSED IT FOR A MILLION.

Peter Pedersen, page 107

Source 9.8 Mehmet Fasih

Ground is covered with two fingers of snow. Fairly strong, cold wind blows into our faces. Conditions are terrible. Can't walk without slipping and sliding. If we have to go into action what shall I do? Oh my God, help us.

Tolga Örnek and Feza Toker, *Gallipoli. The Front Line Experience*, Currency Press, Strawberry Hills, 2005, page 107

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 10.1 'Chatting' — searching clothing for lice



AWM P00437.013

Source 10.2 A Protestant religious service at Gallipoli



AWM P01875.004

Source 10.3 Private B Smart

We went into the firing line at 4.00 [pm] and must do 24 hours in the firing line, 24 hours in the reserve trenches, and 48 hours in reserve which is practically resting ... During the day we do a half hour's observation with the periscope every 2 hours. At night we go on for one hour's observation at a time by looking over the top of the trenches every minute or two. This is pretty risky work. We have to keep an extra watch at dawn because this is when troops can be expected to attack ... The trenches are only 25 to 30 [metres] apart here. In front of our trenches are a few dead bodies which have been lying out here for some time, and everytime a bullet hits one of them which is pretty frequently, they let out a terrible stench.

Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli. The New Zealand Story*, Raupo (Penguin), Auckland, 2008, page 254

Source 10.4 CEW Bean Official War Correspondent

[S]trong men ... are not going to be cheated out of their job by any weak-spirited being in the force. The success of an army like ours depends on the proportion of these strong independent men there is in it. And in the Australian force the proportion is unquestionably high – it may amount to 50 percent or more. I have seen them going up against a rain of fire and the weaker ones retiring through them at the same time – the two streams going in opposite directions and not taking the faintest notice of one another.

Peter Pedersen, *The Anzacs*, Viking, Melbourne, 2007, page 108

Source 10.5 Sister AM Cameron

By 10pm, we had taken in 400 horribly wounded men straight from the field. Some were shot further in the boats which took them to us. The gangway ran with blood. Some of the poor fellows hadn't got one dressing on. One needed all one's common sense and courage... They came pouring in - and oh the wild rushes stopping haemorrhage, treating shock and collapse. The orderlies were good but untrained, and no good for emergencies. The doctors were operating as hard as they could tear, only 4 of them you see, and many lives were saved... The doctor of our block told me to give morphia at my own discretion and to do as I liked. Oh dear that few hours. I had such scares. Some of the men as soon as they dropped asleep woke screaming through shock, none were undressed – at least very few by that time. They were so dead beat we wrapped them in blankets in their filthy clothes poor fellows and let them rest. Faces shot away, arms, legs, lungs, shot everywhere...

Harvey Broadbent, *Gallipoli The Fatal Shore*, Penguin, Melbourne, 2005, pages 177–178

Source 10.6 Captain Mehmet Tevfik

Dear father, beloved mother ... I thank God that he enabled me to become a soldier ... You, as my parents, did all you could to raise me and make it possible for me to serve my country and my people. You are my heart, you are my soul, and you are the inspiration of my life. I am eternally grateful to God and to you ... I entrust my beloved wife ... and my dear son ... first to God and then to your protection.

Tolga Örnek and Feza Toker, *Gallipoli. The Front Line Experience*, Currency Press, Strawberry Hills, 2005, page 117

Source 10.7 Private A Barwick

I don't know what we would have done without the mules at Anzac. I reckon we would have starved you should have seen some of the tracks they had to climb and talk about slippery, every bit of food, ammunition, clothing and nearly all our water had to be carried by the mule teams up to the trenches it was a task I can tell you and it had practically all to be done at night time for the Turks could see them in daylight. The Indians were responsible for all this work and deserve a heap of praise, there were a good few of them chaps killed at Anzac.

Richard Reid, *Gallipoli 1915*, ABC Books, Sydney, 2001, page 103

Resource Page 11

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 11.1 Private Billy Sing, a well-known Australian sniper on Anzac

AWMI P08403.001

Source 11.2 Making bombs from jam tins

AWMI G00267

Source 11.3 Sergeant Cyril Lawrence

God! What a proposal to make. You Australians away back at home in sunny Australia, with your comfortable beds, your good food, your cities, your own homefolk...Think! Just think ever so little; stir yourselves and try and imagine our feelings. Here we have been for nineteen weeks, under fire every minute, living in holes in the ground, toilet sweating and fighting, aye fighting as British soldiers here never knew how to fight, and yet they turn around and ask us to choose one of these two rotten propositions...Golly it's infamous...not one single spot immune from bullet or shell, not one single crevice where a man can say 'I am safe'... Are we wild animals or what are we? Perhaps they are jealous. Surely to God we have earned a holiday..

Harvey Broadbent, *Gallipoli The Fatal Shore*, Penguin, Melbourne, 2005, page 290

Source 11.4 Private George Coombs

Saw a Turk in the thick scrub we chased him until he dropped ... He was a fine big fellow and I thought if he is the type of man we are to meet we are in for a rough time.

David W Cameron, *25 April 1915*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 2007, page 50

Source 11.5 Colonel J McKay

An officer was leading his party across Shrapnel Gully. A shot was fired at them from behind. The party halted at once. 'Sniper!' was the word but no sniper was in sight. One man moved towards some bushes with the rifle ready. A bush moved and jumped out of a hole in the ground. It was a Turk with branches reaching above his head and around his body. The Turk put up his hand but still held his rifle and fired point blank. Instantly, the Australian swung his rifle and struck the head of the Turk. There was no need for a second blow as the head was smashed to pulp. Then our lad surveyed the damage. The bullet had hit his left hand. One finger was shot away and one was hanging on by a strip of skin. 'That will do as a souvenir' was the only comment of the soldier and he pulled it off and put it in his pocket. The Turk was too dead to understand the rest of the Australian's words but all were addressed at the dead body and were forcible enough for any human being, alive or dead.

David W Cameron, page 61

Source 11.6 Sister Anne Donnell

In that terrible weather, with wind travelling a hundred miles an hour, and rain and sleet, all seems so pitifully hopeless...During those fearful days our thoughts were constantly with the boys of the Peninsula and wondering how they were faring; but little did we realise the sufferings until the wind abated and they began to arrive with their poor feet and hands frostbitten. Thousands have been taken to Alexandria (Egypt), hundreds, the boys say, were drowned because their feet were so paralysed they could not crawl away to safety in time. They endured agonies. Sentries were found dead at their posts, frozen and still clutching their rifles...their fingers were too frozen to pull the trigger. And some we have in hospital are losing both feet, some both hands. It's all too sad for words, hopelessly sad.

Richard Reid, *Gallipoli 1915*, ABC Books, Sydney, 2001, page 67

For each of these sources:

- 1 Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2 Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 12.1 Medical staff on a hospital ship off Gallipoli



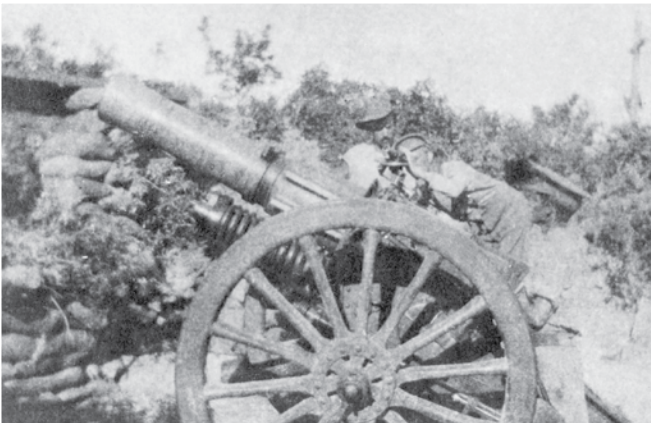
AWM H18776

Source 12.4 Major H M Alexander, Indian Mule Transport

The mess dugout, in which I also slept, was made very comfortable and quite proof against splinters and bullets... The earth was dug to a depth of about three feet: walls were made of grain-bags filled with sand, a large biscuit-box, with top and bottom knocked off, forming a good window on the west side. A roof was put on, strops of wood collected from the wreckage of a boat being used as rafters, with a cart tarpaulin stretched over them, and two inches of earth on top. The whole south side above the ground line was left open to give a splendid view across the position to Ari Burnu Point, and Imbros Island behind. The furniture consisted of shelves and cupboards of biscuit-boxes, a tarpaulin on the floor, a large size bully-beef box as a table, a most luxurious camp-chair contributed by Hashmet Ali, and two stools cleverly made by the Corps carpenter from odds and ends. My valise on a layer of hay was the bed, and when rolled up was used as a fourth chair. The open side was fitted with curtains made of ration-bags, which could be let down to keep out the afternoon sun. It was a perfectly comfortable habitation, though a little cramped at times.

Richard Reid, *Gallipoli 1915*, ABC Books, Sydney, 2001, page 108

Source 12.2 British field artillery piece



AWM H15736

Source 12.5 Sergeant AA Barwick

[H]ad a terrible fight with myself ... one part of me wanted to run away & leave the rest of my mates to face it, & the other part said no, we would stop & see it out at any cost.

Bill Gammage, *The Broken Years: Australian Soldiers in the Great War*, Melbourne University Press, 2010, page 112

Source 12.6 Private AM Simpson

I got [a Turk] in the neck ... made me feel sick and squeamish, being the first man I have ever killed ... I often wake up and seem to feel my bayonet going into his neck. Ugh! It does get on a man's nerves.

Bill Gammage, pages 116-117

Source 12.3 Disease at Gallipoli

Until the end of May the health of the troops at Anzac was perfect ... But in the manure of the transport animals, crowded in valleys behind the opposing lines, in the waste food and other refuse which, at least during the early weeks, was somewhat carelessly disposed of, and in the bodies of the dead, decaying by thousands after the Turkish attack of May 19th, they were produced in swarms ... [A]t the end of July the corps was losing fortnightly through sickness as many men as would be placed out of action in a general assault. Nor did this represent the total trouble, since many who stayed on duty were almost as ill as those that were sent away ...

CEW Bean, *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914–1918 - Volume II The Story of ANZAC* from 4 May, 1915, to the evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula (11th edition, 1941), pages 368-372

Source 12.7 Private Charles Bingham

On one of the days we evacuated about 600 men wounded from Lone Pine, there were a colossal amount of casualties...I used to like being on the foot end. Instead of the shoulder end which was much heavier, but you couldn't always get away with it. Sometimes you'd come to a bend in the trench, and you couldn't get the stretcher round it, so we'd take the fellow off, carry him round in a sitting position, then bring the stretcher round and put him back on it...some of them were about eighteen inches wide, and about six or seven feet deep.

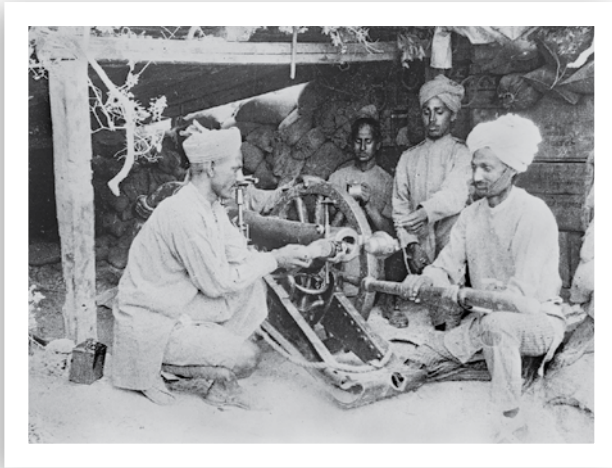
Harvey Broadbent, *Gallipoli The Fatal Shore*, Penguin, Melbourne, 2005, page 219

Resource Page 13

For each of these sources:

- 1** Which headings and questions in the table on pages 66–68 does it apply to?
- 2** Write brief notes in the table about what it tells you about that aspect of life on Anzac, then summarise to answer the question.

Source 13.1 Indian mountain gun crew



AWM C02073

Source 13.4 During an attack



AWM A03272

Source 13.2 Machine gun crew



AWM H14026

Source 13.5 Stretcher bearers at Anzac



AWM A03770

Source 13.3 Wounded aboard the hospital ship, *Gascon* off Gallipoli



AWM H12938

Source 13.6 New Zealand troops on a fatigue party dragging a water tank to their lines



AWM C01812

Conclusion

From all the evidence you have looked at about life at Anzac, decide how you will respond to each of these statements. One example has been done to help you.

| Statements about the Anzacs and their experiences at Gallipoli. They: | Agree / Disagree / Cannot tell from this evidence | Best evidence to support this conclusion |
|---|---|---|
| Were brave | <i>Most were brave, not all.</i> | <i>Stretcher bearers were always under fire with no protection (3.1), during an attack men faced the danger and kept going (3.8), men put themselves in great danger to fight (4.4), some tried to find a way of not fighting (10.4).</i> |
| Respected the enemy | | |
| Were healthy | | |
| Fought for Britain and the Empire | | |
| Fought for Australia | | |
| Missed their families | | |
| Believed they were special | | |
| Were young men | | |
| Fought for their mates | | |
| Felt peer pressure to fight | | |
| Experienced fear | | |
| Were the only allies on Gallipoli | | |
| Suffered from the heat | | |
| Suffered from the cold | | |
| Had a sense of humour | | |
| Had a poor diet | | |
| Were dirty | | |
| Were better fighters than other troops | | |
| Were distinctive in their slouch hats | | |
| Believed they were all equal | | |
| Were from all walks of life | | |
| Spent most of the time in trenches | | |
| Were poorly equipped | | |
| Were typical Australians | | |
| Were always in danger | | |
| Were not concerned about killing | | |
| Were not worried about dying | | |

Image and Representation

You now have a very detailed knowledge and understanding of life on Anzac in 1915.

- 1 Look at the following six images. They are all taken from the book that was written and produced by the Anzacs on Gallipoli. What features of life at Gallipoli are represented in the images? Write the feature beside each image.
- 2 Imagine that you had to select one image for an article on life at Anzac in 1915. Decide which one you would select, and justify your choice, writing your reasons in this space.

Image 1



FP Hewkley, *The ideal and the real*, 1915, pen and ink, pencil on paper, 13.6 x 10.3 cm, AWM ART00021.003

Image 2



CEW Bean, *Picture of a battalion resting*, 1915, pen and ink, 8.4 x 12.7 cm, AWM ART00022.001

Image 3



D Barker, Gallipoli, 1915, 32.5 x 21 cm, AWM ART90422

Image 4



Unknown, Turkish divisional orders, 1915, pen and ink on paper, unknown, AWM ART00067.001

Image 5



F Crozier, Design for 'The Anzac Book' cover, 1916 AWM ART19665

Image 6



David Barker, The Anzac Book, Cassell & Co, London, 1916, page 64

"Do they think we're on a bloomin' pic-nic?"

Note that the image actually chosen for the cover of *The Anzac Book* was Image 3.

- 2 Write a paragraph about the Australian experience of Gallipoli for a new publication of a short history of Australia. Construct that paragraph, based on what you have seen from the evidence in this unit.
- 3 **Site Study.** There are many other representations of the Australian experience at Gallipoli. Look at the list provided below and research the information and stories of the experiences at Gallipoli portrayed in one of these:
 - the Australian War Memorial *Gallipoli Gallery*;
 - the feature film *Gallipoli*;
 - a book, such as Les Carlyon's *Gallipoli* or Peter Pedersen's *The Anzacs* (the first part on Gallipoli);
 - a web site, such as the Department of Veterans' Affairs site *Gallipoli and the Anzacs* (www.anzacsite.gov.au);
 - a documentary, such as *Revealing Gallipoli* or Episode 2 of *Australians at War*, both of which are on the DVD-VIDEO;
 - a song, such as *And The Band Played Waltzing Matilda*; or
 - an event, such as an Anzac Day March and the reporting of it by the media.

To evaluate the representation that you chose from the list on the left use the following questions to assess the content and information provided. Here are some criteria to apply in commenting on your chosen representation. Write two sentences for each question.

- What key aspects does it include?
- What key aspects does it exclude?
- Is it based on historical evidence?
- Does it treat the evidence fairly and critically?
- Is it trying to 'push' a message?
- Are various viewpoints included or acknowledged?
- Is it clear and easy to read/see/understand?
- Is it interesting?
- Whose story or experience is emphasised?
- Are there any important voices or perspectives that are not included?
- Is it engaging and interesting?
- Overall, is it a fair and accurate representation of the events or ideas that it is presenting to you, the audience?



Connections



DVD-VIDEO connections

Revealing Gallipoli

General conditions on Anzac are presented in the segment 15:16-20:12 (Part 2 Chapter 5)

Australians At War Episode 2

'Who'll come a fighting the Kaiser with me'

General conditions on Anzac are presented in the segment 26:20-30:55 (Chapter 6)

DVD-ROM interactive connection

- *The story of Private Jim Martin*
- *Who were the nurses in the Gallipoli campaign?*
- *The Gallipoli Times*

Website connections

For a detailed exploration of aspects life of the Anzacs at Gallipoli go to www.anzacsite.gov.au and go to:

Gallipoli and the Anzacs website

www.anzacsite.gov.au

- Report by war correspondents Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett and Charles Bean
www.anzacsite.gov.au/1landing/index.html
- Signaller Silas
www.anzacsite.gov.au/1landing/s_intro.html
- A Duty Clear Before Us
www.anzacsite.gov.au/1landing/nbeachc.html
- Interpretative – Panel 2 Anzac The Landing 1915
www.anzacsite.gov.au/4panels
- The Drawings of Major LFS Hore
www.anzacsite.gov.au/5environment/hore/hore.html
- Submarines at Gallipoli
www.anzacsite.gov.au/5environment/submarines/ae2.html
- First to Fall
www.anzacsite.gov.au/1landing/first-to-fall/index.html

Gallipoli: The First Day website

www.abc.net.au/innovation/gallipoli/

