

THE FIRST WORLD WAR INTERACTIVE

The effects of rationing

SOURCE A

Poorer people had difficulty where richer people did not.

Sugar was rationed as were meat, butter and other fats.

Sugar and chocolate coatings on pastries were forbidden. The amount of beer brewed was greatly reduced.

From a school history book about rationing during the First World War

SOURCE B

As far as most people were concerned rationing was the fairest way to provide a regular and sufficient food supply for everyone. The steady improvement in our national health figures during and after the war shows that food rationing did more good than harm. Although there were some shortages, we were never faced with famine or real hardship.

From the war memoirs of Lloyd George

TASK

Study sources A and B. How far do these sources agree about the effects of rationing during the First World War?