*2015 How Fully question*

*Source A describes the experience of Scots on the Western Front to a certain extent. The source explains that the British Army had tried to use gas on the Germans but the wind had changed direction and blew it back on the British soldiers, showing the experience the Scots had at the Battle of Loos where this gas was used. The source also explains that Private Howard fought alongside his friend in the Cameron Highlanders who was also from Paisley, showing that many Scots fought on the Western Front with their friends from their home town. The source also gives the information that Howard’s friend was shot in the arm, which shows that many Scots on the Western Front suffered from the powerful German machine guns.*

*A significant point of omission is that at the Battle of Loos, the 9th and 15th divisions took part and in total 35,000 Scots fought in the battle, showing how big a contribution the Scots made to battles on the Western Front. Out of the 21,000 deaths at Loos, 1/3 of them were Scottish, which shows the horrible and fatal experience of many Scots on the Western Front. The source does not talk about the experience of Scots in other battles, such as on the Somme, where McRae’s 16th Battalion suffered approximately 75% of its ranks in total, demonstrating the huge losses that Scots experienced on the Western Front. In addition to this, the Boys Brigade battalion lost over 500 men on the Somme, further showing how the Scottish experience was full of death and loss. Also not included in the source is the battle of Arras, where 44 Scottish battalions and 7 Scottish named Canadian battalions fought together, which was the largest concentration of Scots to ever fight together in a battle. This shows the sheer numbers and force of Scots soldiers on the Western Front. Trench conditions are also omitted from the source and Scots suffered badly as their kilts harboured lice, as well as being very hard to dry out in winter months. The trenches were full of rats, lice and soldiers were either bored or frightened by the imminent possibility of death. These trench conditions show the hard and difficult experiences of Scots in trenches on the Western Front. Additionally, the Black Watch was a Scottish battalion which once served for 48 days on the front line of the trenches, showing the dedication and committed experiences of many Scots on the Western Front. Scottish experiences on the Western Front were brave and committed and after the Battle of Loos, 5 Victoria Crosses were given to Scottish soldiers for bravery and effort showing how dedicated the Scots were in battle.*