



Communication

Name _____

This worksheet is about ways of motivating soldiers and giving them instructions. Start upstairs at the **Drums and Music** case.

1. How can drums and bugles tell soldiers to do things?

2. Drums use rhythm, here is an example of a drumbeat rhythm. The rhythm uses 'dum' for a slow beat and 'da' for a quick one. Try beating the rhythm on the drum.

Dum da da dum da da dum dum da dum

(Maybe you could try making up some more rhythms when you get back to school!)

3. Why would a rhythm be useful for marching? Do you feel any different when you hear rhythmic music?

4. Drums have always been precious to a regiment. Give two reasons why you think this might be?

5. Do you think that a bugle call or a sergeant-major shouting would be a more effective way of communication?

Another way of using sound to give orders is by SHOUTING!

6. Many sergeants and sergeant-majors had, and still have, very loud voices. Why might this be important during a battle?

7. Do you think that a bugle call or a sergeant-major shouting would be a more effective way of communication?

The words used in commands are important. Orders must be given quickly and clearly. This is an example of a poor command:

'I say you chaps would you mind awfully just going a bit quickly towards that pretty little wood about five hundred yards over there and seeing if you can see any nasty soldiers from the other side who might want to hurt us, thanks a lot.'

8. Try making this into a better command using less than 15 words.

9. Now go round to the case behind the little cannon on the floor and find the *Heliograph*. How does it send messages?

The heliograph works in similar way to Morse Code, a communication system which uses electrical pulses of different lengths to transmit messages. Look at the Morse Code alphabet at the end of this sheet and try writing your name below:

Now go downstairs through the archway and look at the model of a trench.

In World War One soldiers were also able to communicate using a Field Telephone. They could be set up on the battlefield and voice messages were sent along wires, just like an ordinary telephone today.

10. Think of some of the good and bad things about field telephones.

Good	Bad

Often in battle communication would break down so you would have to send someone with a message. This person was called a *runner*.

11. What sort of person would have been picked as a runner?

The Army used non-human message carriers. Circle the one you think would be the best at carrying messages.

Cats Hedgehogs Pigeons
Horses Dogs Ferrets Foxes

Why do you think this?

Heliograph

Over long distances

12. Draw lines and match up the means of communication with the situation it would be most appropriate to use them. One of them is done for you!

Radio

When other means of communication have broken down

Field Telephone

To give orders instantly on the battlefield

Morse

On a sunny day

Bugle

From the ground to a fighter plane

Pigeon

To tell soldiers to go to bed

Morse Code Alphabet

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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

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N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z