



## Battle of the Somme (10.5.2)

### **Background:**

The Battle of the Somme was one of the most costly battles of World War I. It lasted from July 1, 1916, to November 18, 1916, and resulted in over 1 million casualties. The Allies planned was for a “great push” through German lines on the western end of the Western Front. Hundreds of thousands were killed due to the military technologies used in the war - in particular, machine guns, artillery, hand grenades, and gas attacks. Months of fighting resulted in relatively small, Allied gains in land. Many historians argue, however, that the Battle of the Somme ultimately turned the tide in favor of the Allies by fatally weakening German forces.

### **Prompt:**

Describe the Battle of the Somme. Explain how each of the accounts of the Battle differ from document to document.

### **Task:**

In a well thought out essay:

- Write a thesis in response to the prompt.
- Support your thesis using at least three pieces of evidence from the documents and the PowerPoint.
- Be sure to explain how the evidence you have chosen supports your thesis.