

Warm-Up: Trench Warfare

A

Trench Warfare

- A** Front line trench
- B** Support trench
- C** Reserve trench
- D** Enemy trench

Artillery fire "softened up" resistance before an infantry attack.

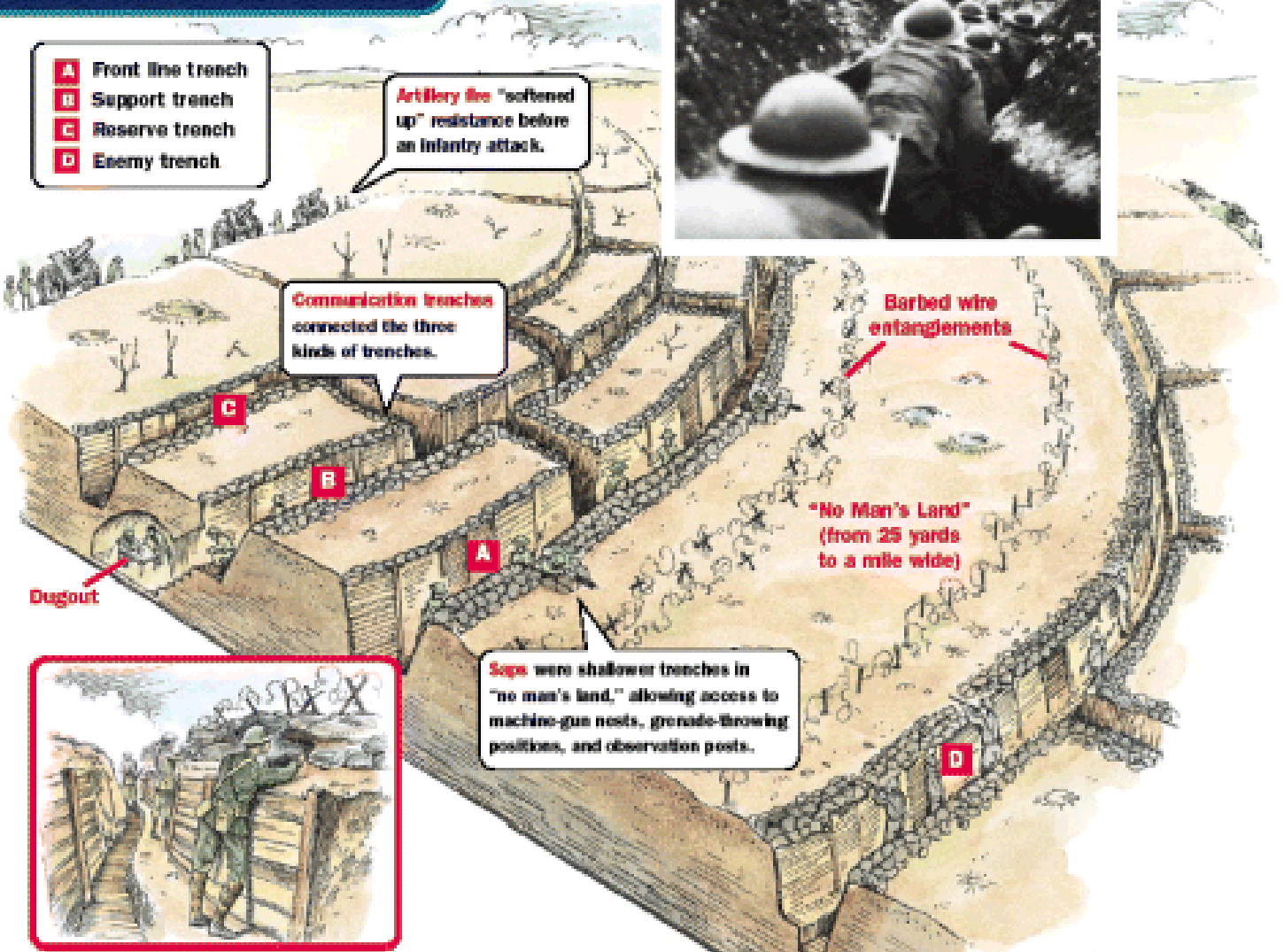
Communication trenches connected the three kinds of trenches.

Barbed wire entanglements

"No Man's Land"
(from 25 yards to a mile wide)

Sops were shallow trenches in "no man's land," allowing access to machine-gun nests, grenade-throwing positions, and observation posts.

Dugout



B



C



"We set to work to bury the bodies. We pushed them into the sides of the trenches but bits of them kept getting uncovered and sticking out, like people in a badly made bed. Hands were the worst; they would escape from the sand, pointing, begging - even waving! There was one which we all shook when we passed, saying, "Good morning," in a snobby voice. Everybody did it. The bottom of the trench was springy like a mattress because of all the bodies underneath..."

Leonard Thompson – British Army 1918

1. From the diagram in photo A, what was "No Man's Land" and what problems did it present to attacking soldiers?
2. What hardships are the soldiers in photo B dealing with?
3. Describe what you see in photograph C
4. What emotional problem is Leonard Thompson showing by describing trench warfare in this way?