Casualties in the Great War

Total casualties in World War I exceeded 37 million, which included both military personnel and civilians. All of the following contributed to the high death rate.

1. Improvements in personal weapons included bolt-action rifles and machine guns.
2. Long-range artillery and anti-aircraft guns were used for the first time.
3. Chlorine and mustard gas were developed.
4. Air warfare was employed for the first time.
5. Tanks were invented.
6. Submarine and battleship technology greatly advanced.
7. Flame throwers were invented.
8. Trench warfare made offensive movements deadly.

Above each of the following primary documents, place the number of the cause listed above that is best illustrated by the document. Some sources may refer to more than one cause.

A. Cause #________

B. Cause #________

C. Cause #________

D. Cause #________
Dear Sir,

we are your letter received to day was glad to hear from you but sorry to hear you all had been sick.
you gain several names of persons at 17 farm but sick to day where they were sick as devil. I understand that Jim B Williams with Walter Manns or both died must of time.

I hope it went not so bad.

Johnson was telling me about Tom and Walter being sick.

We learnt any of that kind of disease in our region that I know of about all we have is colds or colds but I have seen in Papio where some Dimes have it and also noticed where they work them during in England with it. I hope they will soon stop it back in the States.

E. Cause #s _______

F. Cause #s _______
G. Cause #(s) ________

H. Cause #(s) ________

I. Cause #(s) ________
Answers:
A-2; B-2; C-4, 6; D-5; E-9; F-3; G-1; H-4; I-8

Sources:
   Transcript of the letter:
   France
   Nov 19 1918
   Dear Bro -
   Will ans your letter I received to day was glad to hear from you but sorry to hear you all had been sick.
   You gave several names of persons at Home but fail to say where they were Sick or Dead. I understand that Tom B. Williams & Walter Maners(?) ar both dead Must of been what you had reference to but I hope it isnt not so. Neal Johnson was telling me about Tom and Walter being dead.
   We haven’t any of that kind of Disease in our regiment that I know of- about all we have is colds & cooties, but I have Seen in Papers where Some Divisions have it and also noticed where they Have been dieing in England with it. I hope they will soon stop it back in the states.


This exercise will address Social Studies Standard Course of Study skills 1.04; 2.02; 3.05; 4.06, United States History Competency Goal 8.03, Eighth Grade Competency Goal 5.06, and Fifth Grade Competency Goal 4.05.