



Activity 1

Understanding evidence

In history we need evidence to help us find out what happened to people. Evidence is information from the past.

Sometimes the evidence was produced at the time of the events we are studying. This is called **PRIMARY EVIDENCE** or **PRIMARY SOURCES**. This is information supplied by someone who was there at the time, and saw or was involved in what happened.

At other times we use information which has come from someone who was not there at the time, but who still knows something about the event or the background to the event. This is called **SECONDARY EVIDENCE** or **SECONDARY SOURCES**.

Imagine that there has been a terrible accident in your school yard during recess. A friend has been badly hurt. You are very worried and want to know what has happened.

- 1 Discuss the ways you would try and find out.
- 2 Listed in the table below are seven pieces of evidence (that is, pieces of information about what happened) that you might use. Evidence might be primary (something from the time and place) or secondary (an account by somebody who was not there and using information that has come from others). Decide which of the seven pieces of evidence are primary sources, and which are secondary sources. Write P or S beside each in the second column of the table.
- 3 List one strength (+ve) and one weakness or limitation (-ve) of each of the seven sources in helping you to find out exactly what happened.
- 4 Investigators (such as the police finding out about a crime) have to decide which of the evidence they gather is good and reliable, and which is not so good or reliable. Rank these seven pieces of evidence in order of merit, where 1 = best and 7 = least useful and reliable for helping you to find out what happened.

As you work through this unit you will be using a lot of evidence to work out answers about the soldier you are soon to meet.

	Evidence	P or S	+ve	-ve	Rank (1-7)
#1	Eyewitness accounts of three people. They were in different places in the yard.				
#2	A diary account written by an eyewitness later in the day.				
#3	A photograph taken by a student at the time. The quality is poor and the photograph was taken from a long way away.				
#4	A letter from a parent of an eyewitness to her relatives describing the events.				
#5	A newspaper account published the morning after the events.				
#6	A drawing done by a student based on eyewitness accounts.				
#7	A digitally altered copy of the photograph in (#3) above, adding detail to the fuzzy image.				

Activity 2



Who was Albert Jacka?

Just like the detectives who try to solve a crime, we need to use evidence to find out things. So, to find out about a soldier from World War I, we need to use evidence from the time.

But not all the evidence will be completely believable, so we need to make sure we make decisions about what we can rely on most.

Look at the four pieces of evidence about Albert Jacka on page 8.

1 For each, choose whether it is **Primary** or **Secondary** evidence by ticking the box provided.

2 Write down in the space provided under each piece of evidence one or more things that this evidence tells you about the man. An example has been done to help you.

3 Discuss and decide which of these four pieces of evidence you think is the best one for helping you to know these things:

The best evidence for this is (circle one):

What Albert Jacka looked like A B C D

If he was a famous person A B C D

When he died A B C D

What other people thought about him A B C D

4 Imagine that Albert Jacka was coming to your class to talk to you.

Look at Activity 3 on page 9. This is a summary page that you need to use to record your information and ideas about Albert Jacka, the man you are trying to find out about. You already know some information about him, so put that on the page.

5 Write down four questions that you would ask him to help you find out more about him.

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

6 Compare your questions with others in the class, and select the ten best questions to ask. Add these to the list in Activity 3 on page 9.

You will now have to work out your answers to these questions. To do this you need to look at more evidence. Let's see what you can find out!

Continuation of Activity 2

Who was Albert Jacka?



A: Young man photograph
 From this evidence I can learn that Albert Jacka:

Was a soldier

- Primary evidence
- Secondary evidence

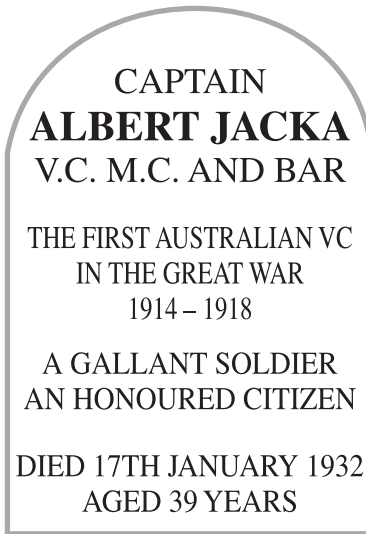


AWM H15655

C: Formal portrait

From this evidence I can learn that Albert Jacka:

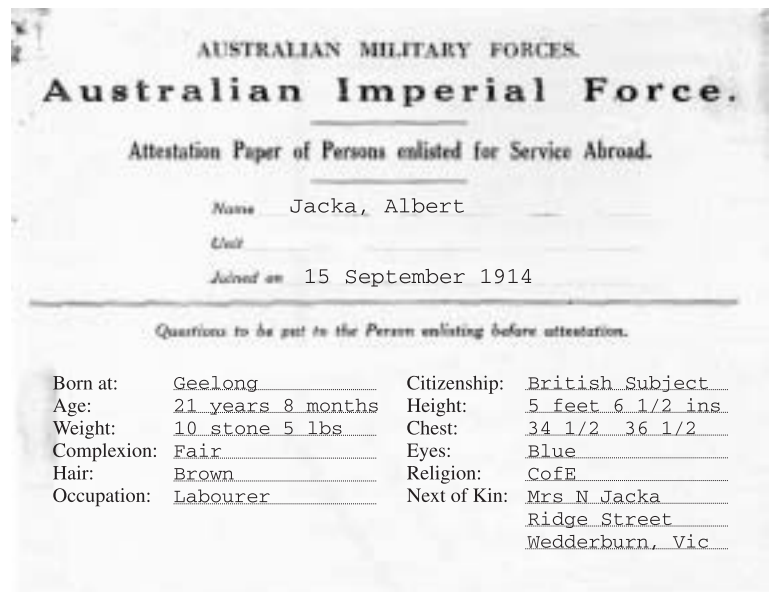
- Primary evidence
- Secondary evidence



B: Headstone inscription

From this evidence I can learn that Albert Jacka:

- Primary evidence
- Secondary evidence



D: Mock up of simplified Attestation Form

From this evidence I can learn that Albert Jacka:

- Primary evidence
- Secondary evidence

Activity 3

Recording and summarising evidence



Your questions from Activity 2:

Question	Answer	Best evidence
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Summary sheet for Albert Jacka

Full name

Where born

When born

Answer		Answer		Answer	
Best evidence		Best evidence		Best evidence	

His appearance

Why he became a soldier

Answer		Answer	
Best evidence		Best evidence	

Countries where he served during the war

If he was wounded

Answer		Answer	
Best evidence		Best evidence	

Some personal qualities or characteristics

Religion

Answer		Answer	
Best evidence		Best evidence	

If people liked him

Things I like about him

Answer		Answer	
Best evidence		Best evidence	

Why he is a famous person in Australian history

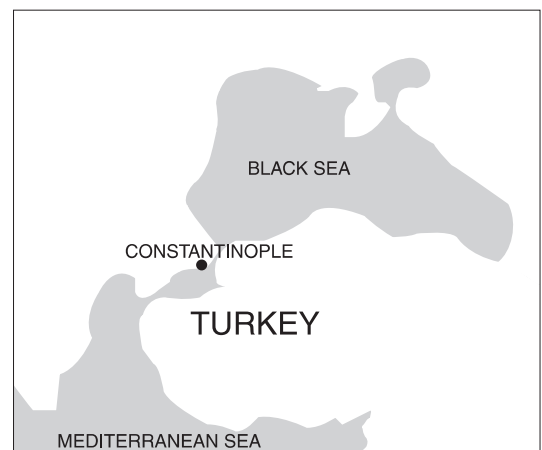
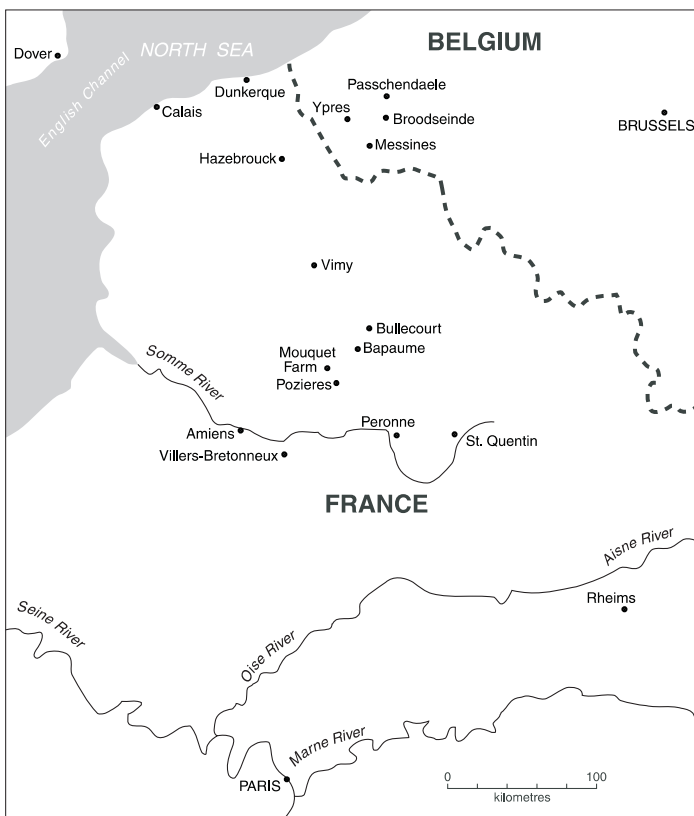
Answer	
Best evidence	



Continuation of Activity 3

Recording and summarising evidence

Where Jacka travelled as a soldier



Activity 4

Drawing conclusions from Jacka's war record



Every soldier had a record of what they did while they were in the army.

On the next two pages is a summary of Albert Jacka's record, and a summary of what happened to Australians during World War 1.

1 Use it to decide about the statements below. Decide if each statement is:

- Definitely True (DT)
- Probably True (PT)
- Definitely False (DF)
- Probably False (PF)
- Cannot Tell from the Evidence (?)

Statement	Answer – circle one for each question
Jacka enlisted early in the war	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was a patriotic man	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was brave	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was wounded several times	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka saw the pyramids in Egypt	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was a good leader of men	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was sent to Palestine	DT PT DF PF ?
The conditions at Gallipoli were unhealthy	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka loved war	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka hated war	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka hated the enemy	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka was a loyal friend	DT PT DF PF ?
Jacka's men respected him	DT PT DF PF ?

2 Use the information in the record sheets to mark these on the maps in Activity 3 on page 10:

- Trace the route that Jacka would have travelled between 1914 and 1919.
- Mark the place where Jacka won the VC.
- Mark the places where he won the Military Cross and Bar.

3 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.



Continuation of Activity 4

Drawing conclusions from Jacka's war record

Evidence

<u>Australia at War</u>	Year/Date	<u>Albert Jacka's war record</u>
1914		
Australia at war with Germany	4 Aug	
	18 Sep	Accepted in the AIF
Troopships gather at Albany, WA, to sail in a convoy to Egypt		
	22 Dec	Sails on ship <i>Ulysses</i> to Egypt
1915		
AIF training in Egypt near Cairo, next to the pyramids and the Sphinx		
Landing of troops at Gallipoli	25 Apr	Lands at Gallipoli
Big attack by Turkish troops	19/20 May	Action for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery
	11 Jul	To hospital with diarrhoea and influenza
Trench warfare at Gallipoli	15 Jul	Promoted to Corporal
	24 Aug	To hospital with gastritis
	12 Sep	Promoted to Sergeant
	14 Nov	Promoted to Company Sergeant Major
Withdrawal from Gallipoli	Nov/Dec	
1916		
Most Australian troops sent to the Western Front Some are sent to Palestine Australians in many battles in France and Belgium	29 Apr	Promoted to 2nd Lieutenant
	7 Aug	Action at Pozieres, France, for which he was awarded the Military Cross for bravery. Gunshot wounds to head and shoulder
	9 Aug	To England to hospital
	18 Aug	Promoted to Lieutenant
	6 Dec	Returned to France

Continuation of Activity 4

Drawing conclusions from Jacka's war record



<u>Australia at War</u>	Year/Date	<u>Albert Jacka's war record</u>
Event		Event
1917		
Australians in many battles in France and Belgium		
	15 Mar	Promoted to Captain
	8 Apr	Action at Bullecourt, France, for which he was awarded a bar to his Military Cross
	8 Jul	Gunshot wounds to right thigh
	13 Jul	To England to hospital
	30 Aug	Returned to France
1918		
Australians in many battles in France		
	15 Feb	On leave to England
	23 Mar	Posted to training school in England
	10 May	Rejoined unit in France
	16 May	Mustard gas wound
	22 May	To hospital in England
Armistice ends the fighting	11 Nov	
1919		
Australian troops return home		
	6 Sep	Returned to Australia, discharged from the Army

Adapted from war records of Albert Jacka, Australia Archives



Activity 5

What is the Victoria Cross?

Albert Jacka was awarded the Victoria Cross at Gallipoli. The Victoria Cross (or VC) is the highest award possible to Australian soldiers for bravery. Look at this VC.



- 1 Describe it.
- 2 The medal inscription says 'For Valour'. What does 'valour' mean?
- 3 Find a colour photograph of a VC. Describe the colour of the ribbon.
- 4 When soldiers wear their medals, the VC is always first. Why?
- 5 Why do you think countries have awards for bravery?
- 6 Go to www.anzacday.org.au/education/activities/jacka and look at the list of all Australian VC winners there. Answer the questions and analyse the information.

Jacka was awarded the Victoria Cross at Gallipoli. Look at the information on the next page about what he did, and answer these questions.

- 7 What is 'bravery'?
- 8 Describe a situation where you think someone in that story has acted bravely.
- 9 Underline those bits that describe dangerous situations.
- 10 In your own words say what Jacka did.
- 11 What qualities did Jacka show?
(You might chose some from this list, or decide on your own words:
Brave Dedicated Quick-thinking Reckless)
- 12 Now look at these five situations. In each one imagine that the person involved has gone into a burning house and rescued a baby. Here are some of the possible answers the person might give when interviewed later and asked the question: "Why did you do it?"
 - 'I just didn't even think. I just went in automatically.'
 - 'I was scared, but it just had to be done.'
 - 'I just didn't really care what happened to me.'
 - 'All I could think of was to do it for the baby, to stop her being hurt.'
 - 'I just couldn't live with myself if I didn't do it.'Discuss and decide which of these you think shows 'bravery'.
- 13 Try and write your own definition of 'bravery'.
- 14 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.

Continuation of Activity 5

What is the Victoria Cross?



Evidence

Jacka at Gallipoli

Albert Jacka landed with his group, the 14th Battalion, on Gallipoli at about 7pm on 25 April 1915.

The Australian soldiers were part of an attack on the Gallipoli Peninsula. They were trying to get control of the area, so that they could then move forward and capture the major Turkish city of Constantinople (modern day Istanbul).

However, they were not able to get past the Turkish soldiers defending the area. For the next eight months they lived and fought in a small area of land, until they finally withdrew in December.

During this time there were many savage battles. One of these was at a place called Courtney's Post.

On 19 May 1915, the Turks launched a major attack to try and push the Australians back to the sea. In one attack they seized control of a part of an Australian trench. If they could not be forced out, many Australians would be in danger.

At one end of the area seized by the Turks, Albert Jacka, with several others, tried to drive the Turks from the Australian trench but were beaten back. It was decided that an attack would be made by some Australians, while Jacka circled to the rear to mount another attack. The soldiers making the diversion threw two grenades and provided covering fire while Jacka leapt over the top of a trench. He shot five Turks with his rifle, bayoneted two others and forced the rest to flee the captured trench.

Jacka was awarded the Victoria Cross for this deed—and was the first Australian to receive this award for bravery in World War I. He was presented the award in London on 29 September 1916.

The actual citation for the award reads:

For most conspicuous bravery on the night of the 19-20th May, 1915 at Courtney's Post, Gallipoli. Lance Corporal Jacka, while holding a portion of the trench with four men was heavily attacked. When all except himself were killed or wounded, the trench was rushed and occupied by seven Turks. Lance Corporal Jacka at once attacked them single handedly and killed the whole party, five by rifle fire and two with the bayonet.



Extract from Albert Jacka's Diary about the incident

Great battle at 3am. Turks capture large portion of our trench. D. Coy called into the front line. Lieut Hamilton shot dead. I lead a section of men and recaptured the trench. I bayoneted two Turks, shot five, took three prisoners and cleared the whole trench. I held the trench alone for 15 minutes against a heavy attack.



Activity 6

Investigating images and representations – a song and a poster

Look at the words and the cover of a piece of sheet music on the next page.

- 1 Do you think they are accurate about what Jacka did at Gallipoli?
- 2 Do you think this is a good song for letting people know what the war was like?
- 3 From the evidence decide which one of these statements is most likely to be true (tick the box next to your selection):
 - The song was written for Jacka before he won his VC
 - The song was written for Jacka after he won his VC
 - The song was written before the war and used Jacka to promote it
 - The song has no connection at all with Jacka.

There are several clues that will help you decide.

Look at the poster on the back cover of this book.

- 4 Who is the main soldier figure?
- 5 Who are the other figures?
What are they doing?
- 6 Why is the word 'together' used all the time?
- 7 Do you think this poster would help to get more men to join the army to go overseas and fight?
- 8 Here are some statements. From the evidence do you think they are:
 - Likely to be true (T) • Likely to be untrue (U) • Cannot tell from the evidence (?)

Statement	Answer – circle one for each statement
Many Australian men had not joined the Army by 1915	T U ?
Australians liked sports	T U ?
Jacka was a hero	T U ?
Jacka was well-known in Australia	T U ?
Many Australians were opposed to the war	T U ?
The artist knew Jacka	T U ?
This poster was successful in getting recruits	T U ?
Jacka supported the war	T U ?
Jacka posed for the poster	T U ?

- 9 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.

Continuation of Activity 6

Investigating images and representations – a song and a poster



Evidence

*Just as the shades of twilight bedim'd
the golden West
A soldier boy on duty thought of
those he loved the best.
One was his dear old mother, and a
fair-haired sister too
The other was a winsome lass, his
sweetheart fond and true.*

*'Hark! What was that? Halt! Who
goes there?' rang out the warning
cry.
Just then a shot resounded, 'twas the
enemy's reply.
His comrades brave were falling as
he rushed into the fray,
Through hail of fire and shrapnel and
his daring saved the day.*

*He was only a private in battle, just a
part of the great rank and file
In defence of our flag and its honour
He would lay down his life with a
smile
For he fought a great fight in the
trenches
In response to his dear country's call
Australia is proud of her hero
Though he's only a private, that's all.*

*'Twas a grim and deadly battle that a
few short hours revealed
Two mighty armies struggled hand to
hand upon the field.
For hours they fought together with
the bayonet and gun
Though our brave boys in khaki were
outnumbered ten to one.*

*Then with a shout of victory they
clambered up the hill
And raised our emblem to the place
where it is waving still.
With many acts of courage our boys have made their name
But one brave deed outshines them all up on the scroll of fame.*

*He was only a private in battle, just a part of the great rank and file
In defence of our flag and its honour
He would lay down his life with a smile
For he fought a great fight in the trenches
In response to his dear country's call
Australia is proud of her hero
Though he's only a private, that's all.*

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Courtesy Museum of Victoria



Activity 7

Why was Jacka decorated for bravery on the Western Front?

After Gallipoli Jacka was sent to the Western Front, in northern France around the border with Belgium. He was decorated for bravery two more times.

To understand what he did and why, we need to understand what war on the Western Front was like. Read the evidence on the next page. It is information from two Australian soldiers about what fighting on the Western Front was like. Use this information to answer these questions.

- 1 What were the general conditions like?
- 2 Why was artillery such a dangerous and hated weapon?
- 3 What were the effects of the war on men's minds?
- 4 What do you think would be the worst aspects of the war for soldiers?
- 5 Why do you think soldiers kept on fighting in such conditions?
- 6 Would you say that these men, even if they did not carry out special acts, were brave? Explain your reasons.

In 1916 Jacka took part in the battle of Pozieres, which is the battle described by the soldiers Raws and Barwick on the next page.

In the following year he was involved in a battle at Bullecourt.

He was awarded the Military Cross, which is the second highest award available, for his actions at Pozieres, and a 'bar' to the Military Cross, which means a second Military Cross, at Bullecourt.

Read this description of his actions at those places, and answer the questions that follow.

On 7 August 1916 at Pozieres, France, Jacka and his men were caught in a shelter during a furious artillery bombardment.

When they emerged from the shelter they discovered that the Germans had attacked and passed right over them. They saw some enemy bringing back some Australian prisoners. Jacka attacked the Germans and there was a savage fight in which he was wounded three times. His action meant that the prisoners were able to escape, and many Germans were killed. His attack on the Germans was described by the Australian official war historian as 'the most dramatic and effective act of individual audacity in the history of the AIF.'

At Bullecourt he showed skill and bravery of a different kind. At night on 8 April 1917 the AIF were preparing to attack the German lines. Jacka crept into the German lines alone at night, to find the safest way for the Australians to attack the next day. While he was behind enemy lines he was discovered by some Germans. Jacka fired his revolver, but it did not work. He then rushed the two men, overpowered them, and brought them in as prisoners.

Next day the soldiers followed the way he had marked out and many lives were saved as a result.

- 7 What did Jacka do that was so special?
- 8 Jacka was severely wounded several times, and had a nervous breakdown. Yet he kept coming back to the Western Front and showing great bravery. Why do you think he was able to do this?
- 9 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.

Continuation of Activity 7

Why was Jacka decorated for bravery on the Western Front?



Evidence

Extracts from letters written by Lt John Raws

(Material taken from www.australiansatwar.gov.au – The Great Search)

I lost, in three days, my brother and two best friends, and in all six out of seven of all my officer friends (perhaps a score in number) who went into the scrap – all killed. Not one was buried, and some died in great agony. It was impossible to help the wounded at all in some sectors. We could fetch them in, but could not get them away. And often we had to put them out on the parapet to permit movement in the shallow, narrow, crooked trenches. The dead were everywhere. There had been no burying in the sector I was in for a week before we went there.

We got away as best we could. I was again in the rear going back and again we were cut off and lost. I was buried twice, and thrown down several times – buried with dead and dying. The ground was covered with bodies in all stages of decay and mutilation, and I would, after struggling free from the earth, pick up a body by me to try to lift him out with me, and find him a decayed corpse. I pulled a head off — was covered with blood. The horror was indescribable.

My battalion has been at it for eight days and one-third of it is left – all shattered at that. And they're sticking it still, incomparable heroes all. We are lousy, stinking, ragged, unshaven, sleepless. Even when we're back a bit we can't sleep for our own guns. I have one puttee, a dead man's helmet, another dead man's gas protector, a dead man's bayonet. My tunic is rotten with other men's blood and partly splattered with a comrade's brains. It is horrible but why should you people at home not know.

But many other fine men broke to pieces. Everyone called it shell shock. But shell shock is very rare. What 90 per cent get is justifiable funk. due to the collapse of the helm – self-control.

All day long ground rocked and swayed backwards and forwards from the concussion... men were driven stark staring mad and more than one of them rushed out of the trench over towards the Germans. any amount of them could be seen crying and sobbing like children their nerves completely gone... we were nearly all in a state of silliness and half dazed but still the Australians refused to give ground. Men were buried by the dozen, but were frantically dug out again some dead and some alive.

Extract from the diary of Archie Barwick at Pozieres

(Diary entry 24/7/16, Australian War Memorial)



Activity 8

What sort of person was Albert Jacka?

We have read now about Jacka's bravery. But what was he like as a person? What were his characteristics and qualities? Was he a person you think you would have liked?

- 1 Look at this evidence from various people about him. In the space provided for each piece of evidence, write in what you think this tells us about Jacka the man.
- 2 Also decide where you think this information came from and write that in the space provided:
 - a friend • family • Jacka himself • an enemy
 - some other source?
- 3 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.

Evidence

EXTRACT 1...

Family accounts of the young Albert show him as an intensely shy youth when in unfamiliar company who had a very aggressive attitude in play and in sport.

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

EXTRACT 2...

I think it was realised that Jacka, the higher rank he obtained would cause more trouble to some of his superior officers. They were satisfied that if he took it into his head that a job should be done a certain way, it would be useless for them to tell him to do it another way.

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

EXTRACT 3...

One characteristic above all endeared him to all the under-dogs, instead of 'criming' men and bringing them before the officers, his method was: "I won't crime you, I'll give you a punch on the bloody nose."

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

EXTRACT 4...

His fighting spirit and independent nature constantly brought him into conflict with those in higher authority.

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

EXTRACT 5...

Jacka was very quick to criticise people when he thought they were wrong or doing the wrong thing.

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

EXTRACT 6...

He never unduly rushed his men, he was very thoughtful of them. He was like the captain to us all in this respect that he never asked his followers to do anything that he would not first do himself. In fact he did many a thing himself rather than ask a subordinate to do a dangerous duty that really was the natural task of that subordinate.

What this tells us about Jacka	
Likely source	

Continuation of Activity 8

What sort of person was Albert Jacka?

EXTRACT 7...

Jacka never went berserk in action, rather... he was the direct opposite – cool, deliberate and calculating – always fighting to win, not merely by sheer bulldog tactics, but by out-generaling the opposition and by saving the lives of those whom he commanded.

What this tells us about Jacka

Likely source

EXTRACT 8...

One day, while Jacka was out walking with another officer, they were accosted by two men who asked Jacka for a cigarette. He replied that he had none. Whoever the men were, they were annoyed, either by the refusal or by the notion that they were suspected.

'You b — decorated hero, I'll have you on!' said one, and with that he lunged at Jacka. Jacka was a first-rate boxer and an athlete – he had once been a road-racing cyclist and was good at most sports, he threw away his cane, sidestepped and knocked the man off his feet. As he got up, Jacka floored him again. As Jacka himself said afterwards, 'I had to knock the beggar down four times before he took the count; each time he hit, I ducked and walked into him.' He afterwards learnt that his opponent was a famous fighter. I think Jacka was really prouder of this feat than of any other in his military career.

What this tells us about Jacka

Likely source

EXTRACT 9...

The only picture that we in the battalion ever had of him was that of a grim, determined man, at ease in the most appalling circumstances. But my friend tells me that during those months the iron will was so badly shaken that the noise of a box-lid hurriedly closed would set up a physical shaking that would continue for hours at a stretch, during which time he was incapable of signing his name to an order or memo. Half an hour on the range would produce a similar effect, and on two occasions this led to severe motorcycle smashes on a level road, fortunately without injuring him.

What this tells us about Jacka

Likely source

EXTRACT 10...

'There were four Huns in a shell hole. All I could see were their heads, shoulders and rifles. As I went towards them, they began firing point-blank at me. They hit me three times and each time the terrific impact of bullets fired at such close range swung me off my feet.

But each time I sprang up like a prizefighter, and kept getting closer.

When I got up to them, they flung down their rifles and put up their hands.

I shot three through the head and put a bayonet through the fourth.

I had to do it – they would have killed me the moment I turned my back.'

What this tells us about Jacka

Likely source

EXTRACT 11...

When asked on the day of his funeral what exploit in Captain Jacka's career impressed me the most my answer was: The cheery smile and grand optimism with which he, time and time again, went back into the firing lines, knowing that he had a wonderful reputation to uphold, and was expected to perform a VC stunt which might cost him his life.

What this tells us about Jacka

Likely source

Evidence based on Ian Grant, *Jacka VC*, Macmillan, Melbourne, 1989 and E. J. Rule, *Jacka's Mob*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1933



Activity 9

What happened to Albert Jacka after the war was over?

Here are some facts about what happened to Jacka after the war was over.

However the facts, in eight paragraphs, have been mixed up in sequence.



1 Re-arrange the paragraphs in a logical order to tell the story of what happened to Jacka after the war, numbering them 1 to 8 to show the order in which they should be arranged. The first has been numbered to help you.

2 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.

Evidence

AWM ART11798

	'No, Eddie they are not my style; and if I did accept, they'd say, "Look at Jacka - failure in business, climbs into a safe job as an M.P."'
	'What an odd thing to do!' remarked someone afterwards. Jacka replied that he had not seen this old soldier since they were in France together, and the address could well be delayed for a second but that greeting could not.
1	After the war was over Albert Jacka returned to Victoria.
	He began a business with two former Army mates. He married Veronica Carey in 1929, and was elected to the St Kilda Council. He later became mayor, and displayed great concern for the welfare of the unemployed in his municipality.
	He was survived by his wife and his adopted daughter, Betty, and predeceased his parents.
	However, business pressure during the Depression and the effects of his wounds led to a breakdown in his health. He was hospitalised in December 1931, and died on 17 January 1932.
	Other men, feeling the pinch, came to him for comfort and encouragement in troubles far less serious than his own. Though constantly imposed upon, he remained the poor man's friend. St Kilda became crowded with unemployed. Jacka kept his worries to himself and attended theirs. 'Gentlemen,' he always called them in his addresses. He was criticised for doing so, but to him they remained 'Gentlemen' to the last. He never forgot an old comrade. Once, at some function, while delivering a mayoral address, he caught sight of an old Digger of the 14th in the background. Their eyes met and he paused to say 'Hallo, Syd' and then went on with his speech.
	There was a very easy way out of his difficulties. Frequently he was pressed to take a seat in Parliament, but though his partner unselfishly urged him to secure a safe competence in this way, and he was fully entitled to do so, he would not.

Activity 10

Remembering and commemorating Albert Jacka



Read the description of Jacka's burial on the next page, and look at the photographs showing some ways in which he has been remembered and commemorated.

Then answer these questions.

- 1 List five pieces of evidence which show that Jacka was honoured and respected.
 - 2 List five qualities or characteristics of Jacka that we can learn from the evidence on that page.
 - 3 Are there any others that you would add that are not there?
 - 4 What different symbols can you see on the grave?
 - 5 Imagine that a person who did not read English saw these symbols. What messages about Jacka do you think they would get?
 - 6 Enter any new information on your Summary sheet for Albert Jacka in Activity 3 on page 9.
- 7 You have been 'In Search of Jacka, VC'. What would you tell your family or friends who asked you what you have learned about him? Decide what you would like to say, then choose one of the following ways of presenting your information, ideas and messages about him.

Write a paragraph or create a history book

Write a page that could go into a history text book for other students; or you might create a book about Jacka for younger students, with an illustration for each page of the story.

Create a PowerPoint™ address

You might have an ANZAC Day or Remembrance Day ceremony at your school. Write a speech or create a PowerPoint display that you could present to your fellow students that tell them about this famous Digger.

Create a plaque

Imagine that the school Jacka used to go to wants to hang a plaque in the school honour area. Decide what words and images you would include.

Design a memorial

This should include symbolic images. Decide what you want to say, and what images would show this to others.

Create a poster or song

These could be compared to the poster and song that you have studied in this book. What different things would you show and emphasise?

Prepare a short play

This would show the main elements of Jacka's story. It might also be something for your ANZAC Day or Remembrance Day ceremony instead of a speech.

Sketch a storyboard for a film

Decide on six to eight scenes that you would include in a short film of Jacka's life. Then present a summary of the scenes, as written summaries or sketches of what you would show.

"Albert Jacka, this is your life"

Put together a list of guests, and have them present their part in Jacka's life.



Continuation of Activity 10

Remembering and commemorating Albert Jacka

Evidence

And so the battalion followed its old hero to his burial; and on the 15th May it gathered again and marched through the iron gates to the memorial over his grave. The band ceased playing. The heavy beat of feet sounded on the gravel path as it had so often done when we followed him in France—tramp, tramp, tramp. The column came to a halt inside a barrier prepared for us. It was Sunday. In the distance a church bell tolled. Outside the barrier, men and women gazed reverently, with wonder on their faces. We were a strange body. Poor men, even ragged men, well-to-do men and all the stages between, we were for that short hour completely one, bound by the love of brothers. I think the watchers beyond that barrier realised something of this—for the moment there was an unbridgeable chasm between us and them.

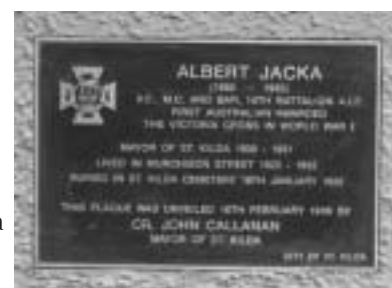
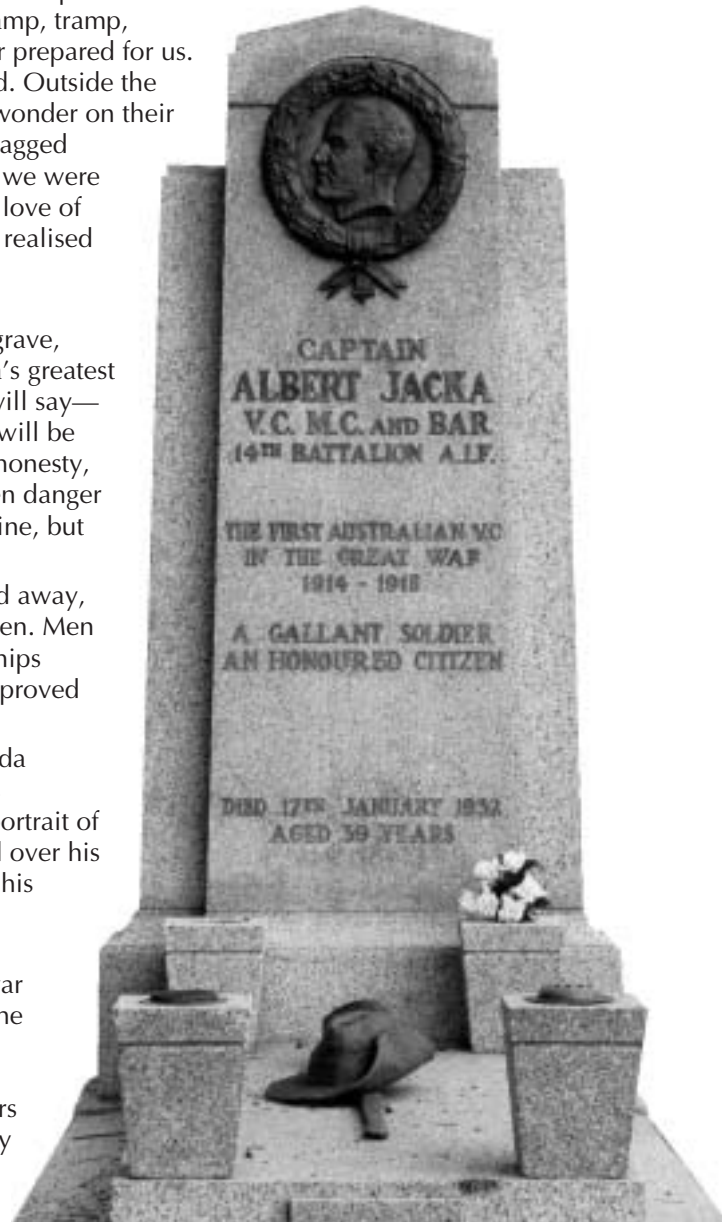
Then the silence was broken: '...looking on his grave, every citizen will say—'Here lies one of Australia's greatest front-line soldiers'. The unemployed of St Kilda will say—'Here lies one of our best friends'. Captain Jacka will be remembered. He had handed down the torch of honesty, justice and courage... He was an inspiration when danger threatened. He fought the nation's battles in the line, but fought the men's battles out of the line."

When the strains of 'God Save The King' had died away, the barriers were swept aside. The spell was broken. Men gathered in little groups and renewed old friendships whose flavour, like that of old wine, had even improved with age.

He was buried with full military honours in St Kilda cemetery. He had eight Victoria Cross winners as pallbearers. A memorial stone, with a bas-relief portrait of Jacka by sculptor Wallace Anderson, was erected over his grave on 15 May and a house was purchased for his widow from public subscription.

His name is commemorated on a plaque at the Victorian Garden of Remembrance, Springvale war cemetery, and by a number of streets in Melbourne and Canberra. In 1982 the St Kilda City Council renamed parts of the busy Lower Esplanade and Marine Parade as Jacka Boulevard. For many years the 14th Battalion commemorated the anniversary of his death with a memorial service at his grave and this is being continued by the St Kilda Council and the St Kilda Historical Society. A portrait by George Coates is displayed in the Hall of Valour at the Australian War Memorial.

E. J. Rule, *Jacka's Mob*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1933, Chapter 30



Top right: Headstone — St Kilda Cemetery
Bottom right: Plaque on gate of house in St Kilda