

Evacuation was great success. Do you agree or disagree? To be able to come to my own conclusion on this question I will be studying all the sources and coming to a conclusion after I have studied the sources.

All children were evacuated to safer places called reception areas. Whereas source C suggest that it wasn't, it says people had no idea where they were going. The source comes from an interview with a teacher in 1988. This source cannot be fully trusted because it is only her memories and is only one viewpoint.

Some sources suggest that evacuation was well organised when evacuee's got there. For example, in a source in a textbook, a 5-year-old evacuee described his experience; he says that he enjoyed himself, and enjoyed his 2 - 3 years in Wales, and that the host wanted to adopt him. Another example of where evacuation was a success was from a rich host who says that her 6 male evacuees's made the war bearable and enjoyable.

Source G is an extract from a novel. The reliability of this source is questionable as the facts could have been exaggerated for the sake of the novel. It is not an eyewitness account. It is written for children so the harsher and perhaps more truthful details may have been omitted. Source G shows evacuation to be a partial failure. Source H is a

piece of propaganda encouraging more people to become host families for children being evacuated. This shows that many people did not want to be host families for whatever reasons. This source shows many more families were needed to cope with the rising number of children being evacuated. This source also shows that evacuation was a failure.

It is an extract from a teacher remembering her own experiences. She is articulate and descriptive; you get a feeling of the uncertainty and fears that surrounded the event,

"All you could hear was the feet of the children and a kind of murmur, because the children were too afraid to talk."

The interview with the teacher took place in 1988 long after the war had finished, there is no reason for the teacher to slant her memories for propaganda purposes or to sell newspapers, she is a neutral party. It is obviously an enduring memory, which she still remembers clearly despite the long length of time. Her main aim seems to be to inform not to persuade. Source C allowed me to get closer to the event.

There is a lot of information about why the evacuation process was unorganised. Source 11 in the blue pamphlet tells us about the terrible and traumatising the age

of two. She travelled to Wales and was separated from her older Brothers and Sisters.

A member of my class asked 'How do you feel about evacuation?' Edna paused a moment and replied "I have mixed feels...evacuation saved lives, I mean a bomb actually dropped on my house so if I stayed...but the bad point for me was growing up in Wales where I grew up thinking my name was 'the little English girl' and was beaten my second guardians, for wetting the bed, but I was young."

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2. Source G is an extract taken from a novel.

Is it reliable as evidence about evacuees?

Explain your answer using Source G and knowledge from your own studies.

... e holiday' where they would be safe and healthy. This means that there must of been an unwillingness by parents to send thier children. In source B the teacher says that the children who she took were very quite, and quite obviously afraid of the whole situation. She also says that the mothers were upset and so if they wanted to walk to the station with

the children they had to follow behind.
This is so they did not upset them.

After arrival at the billeting centre the organised process disintegrated. Children were almost 'auctioned off' as volunteers came in to pick which children they wanted. This made the children very self-conscious and afraid in case no one wanted them.

It was a case of luck as to what kind of family the children were put with. There was no arrangements to match up suitable foster parents for the evacuated children. Some children who had been living in the slum of a big city suddenly found themselves ...

... re of a low class, and would have probably been living in inner city slums, which might not of had a toilet. The account in Source F on the other hand is quite different because I would imagine the person telling the account is from a middle or upper class person, who was actually evacuated. Very would have lived in a "better" home and would have been more "civilised". Another reason that they are very different is because Source E is supporting the general view of evacuees whilst Source F is stating that he is fed up with hearing the general view of evacuees, and that it ...