What do Sources D, E and other sources reveal about social class in Pompeii and Herculaneum?

Both Sources D and E give the historian a better understanding of social class in Pompeii and Herculaneum. Source D is a statue of Emmaia, a prominent woman who donated generously to the city of Pompeii. This statue allows us to understand that by her contributions, Emmaia was “immortalised” in the city of Pompeii. The stance in which she is depicted, with her hands raised holding her garments, makes her appearance almost godlike and regal.

Source E contains several inscriptions from a cemetery in Herculaneum. It is evident in these inscriptions that citizens and the upper classes of Roman society were treated with a greater respect and reverence.

By examining the inscriptions, we can observe patterns that reveal the status of individuals. For instance, there is a clear distinction between social classes. In the inscriptions, it also describes the accomplishments of the Roman “dilettanti” and states, “let it be known who the slaves and freedmen will simply state their name.” This too shows that even after their passing, many wanted their names and status remembered, thus preserving social classes in Pompeii and Herculaneum.

End of Question 7 This shows that the upper class was more respectable in society. Their wealth could buy them influence and status within the city.