Question 8 (10 marks)

To what extent has research since the end of the 1960s changed our understanding of the evidence from the sites of Pompeii and Herculaneum?

In your answer, refer to Sources F and G and your own knowledge.

...The human remains from Herculaneum tell us of the conditions the people lived in as well as their diets, since the discovery of Pompeii... Archeologists have been finding these ways of living... restoring the INSULES. Archeologists decided to focus on one INSULE at a time instead of a whole street at a time. Through excavation of the houses of Pompeii... we have learnt more on the way they lived and the structures of these villas.

Archeologists have decided to leave a section of Pompeii alone for future generation in hopes that new technology will be constructed to help the restoration and conservation of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Archeologists have restored the garden at the House of the...
silver wedding. Archaeologists have also used casting methods to see what position the people of Pompeii died in. Since the excavation of Pompeii, the villa's and frescoes have been left to the elements and are deteriorating, and 2000 year old frescoes are being defaced by graffiti from tourists that come through Pompeii. Also, the acidic bird poop has been removing frescos. The few findings in Pompeii and Herculaneum have helped us understand what religion and how they worshipped back then, as well as their leisure activity. The frescoes also give us a view of their dress, clothing. The villa of papiya is another example of what we have and will know about Pompeii because of the papiya scrolls found there. They will be using digital imaging to help decipher these scrolls.

Though much is left unknown in Pompeii, these technological advances have helped us have a better understanding of the past as well as a better way of unveiling historical artifacts.

End of Question 8