

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.

Research since the end of the 1960s has significantly changed our understanding of evidence from Pompeii and Herculaneum, due to the increasing value of modern technology, and the possibility of ~~future~~ inaccuracies ^{written in} ~~written in~~ ^{resulting in a} ~~an~~ improvement in ~~understanding~~ evidence up to the 1960s, and ~~an~~ ^{an} improvement in understanding of current evidence.

New technology has had ~~benefited~~ an impressive effect upon ~~existing~~ research after the 1960s, in particular, Estelle Lazen and her work on the skeletons found in the boat house. ~~The~~ The skeletons found in the boat house, ~~seemed~~ ^{seem} were trapped by the ~~very~~ eruption, and died an agonising death as the temperature inside rose to extreme temperatures. The original assumption that they were ^{the} old ~~or~~ ^{intimidated}, ~~intimidated~~.

Question 8 continues on page 6

Question 8 (continued)

and unable to escape, is challenged by Estelle's research, studying their bones, and ligament remains to determine their age, ~~on~~ diseases, and physical condition. From her evidence, ~~it is now apparent that~~ in the bodies can now be understood to be of all ages, and simply sought safety in the boat house when they were unable to escape. Source F depicts one of the skeletons found in ~~the~~ the Herculaneum boat houses. ~~Before 1960's~~ ^{Until the 1960's} she would have just been another skeleton. However, with ~~archaeologist~~ ^{archaeologist} Sarah Bikel's work, ~~we can now identify~~ ^{can now identify} the skeleton, we now have a strong understanding of who she was, from her jewellery, ~~wealth as a slave~~ ^{wealth as a slave}, the bracelet seen ~~at the~~ ^{near her} ~~from her~~ ^{bracelet}.

Alternatively, Source A challenges our interpretations of Latin itself, ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ due to the aspects of modern culture we immediately apply to it. ~~This~~ ^{This} seen in the quote "an unvalidated assumption that each Latin term is equivalent to a modern term." ~~Therefore, it is~~ ^{Therefore, we can see from} Source G ~~that~~ ^{that} we ~~require~~ ^{required} a far greater understanding of Pompeian culture, to truly ~~and~~ ^{and} translate their language into ours, for example, the particular functions of baths and dining rooms, both having significantly higher importance than today, ~~simply~~ ^{place of} as a ~~public~~ ^{social} interaction. Again, thanks to modern techniques/technologies - e.g. Estelle's work on skeletons, we ~~can~~ ^{have} gained a significant amount of understanding of Pompeian + Herculaneum culture, ~~through~~ ^{research} hence significantly changing our interpretation of evidence from these sights.

End of Question 8