

8	‘The houses in Pompeii were built on a grander scale and were more lavishly decorated than the houses in Herculaneum.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer with reference to specific houses from <u>both</u> Pompeii <u>and</u> Herculaneum. Use the 25 essay marking criteria. AO1 – Knowledge and understanding – 12 marks. Marks should be awarded using the marking criteria for AO1. Candidates have studied a range of houses from Pompeii and Herculaneum including: Pompeii: • House of Menander • House of Octavius Quartio • House of Sallust • House of the Faun. Herculaneum: • House of Stags • Samnite House • House of Opus Craticium. Give credit to other relevant houses from the two towns. AO2 – Analysis and evaluation – 13 marks. Marks should be awarded using the marking criteria for AO2. Answers may include reference to the following points: Grander scale: • House of Menander occupies most of an <i>insula</i> in the southern part of the city • Exceptionally large for a Pompeian house • One of the most luxurious and most magnificent in the city • House of the Faun occupies an entire <i>insula</i> and has two <i>atria</i>, four <i>triclinia</i> and two <i>peristylia</i> • House of Sallust is one of the oldest houses in Pompeii (4th century BC) and is quite spacious but not on the same scale as the previous two mentioned. It was developed over time and was converted to a hotel in the early 1st century AD. • House of Octavius Quartio resembles a miniature country villa – the house is small in comparison to the garden area with its canals • House of Stags is not a particularly large house, but it does have an unusual layout to exploit its site on the coast. The entrance area was quite modest, and the everyday rooms were tucked away at the back of the house so that the garden, dining room, pergola and sun terrace could dominate the house.	25
8	• Samnite House was a large house [as far as we know] for Herculaneum. It was a house that underwent extensive alterations at different times, but especially after the earthquake. This reduced the accommodation but retained the atrium. • House of Opus Craticium was a standard-type house before the earthquake. It was then turned into apartments. Lavish decoration: • House of Menander has a number of high-quality wall paintings depicting mythological stories, e.g. a triptych depicting scenes from the Trojan War. Also has mosaics including one depicting a Nilotic scene. • House of the Faun was the most lavishly decorated house in Pompeii – including the mosaic depicting the battle between Alexander and Darius • House of Sallust was decorated in the first style. It had paintings of Mars, Venus and Cupid, and the myth of Actaeon. • House of Octavius Quartio has superb wall paintings in different areas of the house. The owner was clearly interested in Egypt and the god Isis – given the decoration and the sculpture contained within the house. • House of Stags has a lot of high quality painted wall plaster but it was the outdoor space which had time and effort spent on the decoration – statues, planting, etc. • Samnite House has a mixture of different styles of wall painting. It is more interesting for its documentation of the changing use of space rather than its grand design or lavish decoration. • House of Opus Craticium has elements of decoration within the apartments – but does not compare to the House of the Faun or the House of Menander. Look for a strong line of argument which is well supported with reference to details from specific, recognisable houses from Pompeii and Herculaneum. Expect candidates to come to a reasoned decision.	