

Lesson 19

1. Pompeii was located about a hundred and thirty miles south of Rome. It was _____ by Romans who preferred life in a small town to that of the great city of Rome.
2. About twenty thousand people lived in this prosperous port city. It had many _____ public buildings and private homes.
3. Pompeii was nestled under Mount Vesuvius. The four-thousand-foot mountain was actually a volcano that had been _____ for eight hundred years.
4. The people of Pompeii had no reason to fear the mountain. Even had they known it was a volcano, they would have thought the chance of its _____ very small.
5. Over the centuries, pressure built up inside the volcano. These _____ forces shook the earth in the A.D. 62 earthquake.
6. The earthquake should have served as a warning. The townspeople felt the _____ from it but failed to connect the earthquake with the mountain towering over them.
7. The earthquake did some damage to buildings that were quickly repaired. But the earthquake was actually the _____ to something far worse.
8. The top of the volcano gave no clue as to what lay beneath. _____ rock had hardened to form a plug that acted like a cork in a fizzy bottle.
9. Far from declining after the earthquake, the pressure increased. In A.D. 79, the plug was _____ in a tremendous explosion that released the built-up pressure.
10. What had seemed like a little heaven by the sea turned into a hell on earth. The air was filled with poisonous _____ as hot lava, ash, and even boulders rained down.
11. The townspeople had no time to escape. Many were _____ by the thick smoke and died on the spot.
12. Boiling water was forced up through cracks in the ground. People and animals were _____ as they tried to flee the town.
13. It is impossible to get an accurate count of how many died in Pompeii. The number of those who _____ was measured not in the hundreds but in the thousands.
14. Pompeii has much to teach us about life in the Roman Empire. Much of what we know comes from _____ that were first begun in 1763.
15. Digging into the past continues to this day at Pompeii. The work is slow and _____, but very rewarding when a major discovery is made.