

Strigil

MU4201



Student-led inquiry topics and useful resources to begin your research

1. What was the function of a strigil? Reference specific features of MU4201 to support your answer.

Consider such things as the shape, material and decorative elements of the object.

2. A simple object such as MU4201 can provide a wealth of information in regards to ancient Roman society. What insights does the strigil provide in terms of daily life at Pompeii and Herculaneum?

Consider; leisure activities, social structure, health and sanitation etc.

3. Strigils were commonly used in public bathhouses or *thermae*. Describe a typical Roman public bath. Refer to both archaeological and textual evidence to support your answer.

4. Why were the public baths considered such important features of Roman towns? Other than bathing, what other activities took place at the public baths at Pompeii and Herculaneum?

Consider the role of bathhouses in the social and political spheres of Roman society.