

# Challenging Fashion History Quiz

Fashion History · Answer Key · 10 Questions

---

**1. Which specific textile innovation in the late 19th century allowed for the creation of highly structured, corseted silhouettes without the need for excessive boning?**

- A) Machine-knitted jersey**
- B) Rayon (artificial silk)
- C) Stiffened crinoline cages
- D) The development of synthetic dyes

**2. The iconic 'New Look' by Christian Dior, launched in 1947, was a stark departure from wartime austerity. What was the primary criticism leveled against it by some women in post-war society?**

- A) It was too revealing and inappropriate
- B) It was considered too simple and unfeminine
- C) It required an excessive amount of fabric and was seen as wasteful**
- D) It promoted a boyish silhouette deemed unfashionable

**3. During the Renaissance, the use of 'slashing and puffing' was a popular decorative technique. What was the original practical purpose of this fashion trend?**

- A) To allow for better ventilation in hot climates
- B) To showcase the quality of the undergarments worn beneath**
- C) To make garments lighter and easier to move in
- D) To indicate social status through the amount of fabric used

**4. The 'flapper' style of the 1920s, characterized by shorter hemlines and looser silhouettes, was heavily influenced by a changing social attitude. What significant societal shift was most directly linked to this new fashion?**

- A) The rise of the automobile
- B) Increased participation of women in sports
- C) The emancipation of women and their entry into the workforce**
- D) The popularity of jazz music and dance

**5. What specific material, derived from wood pulp, became a significant and affordable alternative to silk and cotton in the early 20th century, impacting mass-produced clothing?**

- A) Nylon
- B) Polyester
- C) Acetate
- D) Rayon**

**6. The Victorian era saw the rise of specific undergarments that shaped the silhouette. Which of these was NOT a common undergarment of that period?**

- A) Corset
- B) Petticoat
- C) Crinoline
- D) Bralette**

**7. The haute couture tradition, as we understand it today, largely originated in which European city during the mid-19th century?**

- A) London
- B) Milan
- C) Paris**
- D) Vienna

**8. What was the primary function of the 'pannier' or 'side hoops' worn in the 18th century?**

- A) To provide extra warmth in cold climates
- B) To create a wider, more elaborate silhouette for skirts**
- C) To protect the wearer from the mud of unpaved streets
- D) To allow for easier movement and dancing

**9. Which influential fashion designer is credited with popularizing the use of practical, comfortable fabrics like jersey for women's wear in the early 20th century, challenging the rigidity of previous styles?**

- A) Elsa Schiaparelli
- B) Coco Chanel**
- C) Madeleine Vionnet
- D) Jeanne Lanvin

**10. The 'Zoot Suit,' popular in African American and Mexican American communities in the 1940s, was characterized by a very specific silhouette. What was its most defining feature?**

- A) Extremely wide lapels and padded shoulders with narrow, high-waisted trousers**
- B) Loose, baggy trousers and a tight-fitting, short jacket
- C) A tailored suit with a distinctively short, fitted jacket
- D) A monochromatic color scheme with ornate embellishments