

Nature and Animal Influence in Fashion History

Fashion History · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which 19th-century fashion trend, involving the use of entire bird carcasses on hats, led to the formation of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in 1889?

A) The Ornithological Millinery Movement

B) The Plume Boom

C) The Avian Couture Crisis

D) The Taxidermy Bonnet Era

2. During the 17th century, 'Byssus' or 'sea silk' was a rare fabric produced from the beard-like filaments of which marine creature?

A) Pinna nobilis (pen shell)

B) Mytilus edulis (blue mussel)

C) Pinctada margaritifera (pearl oyster)

D) Haliotis iris (paua shell)

3. What toxic substance, derived from nature but used in 19th-century hat making to soften felt, caused neurological damage known as 'Mad Hatter' disease?

A) Lead acetate

B) Mercury nitrate

C) Arsenic trioxide

D) Cadmium sulfide

4. The use of Tyrian purple dye in ancient Phoenician fashion was extracted from the secretions of which type of organism?

A) Crushed insect shells

B) Murex sea snails

C) Seaweed lichen

D) Indigofera plant roots

5. In the 18th century, 'poudre de riz' (rice powder) was used to whiten wigs; however, what botanical alternative was historically used by the nobility to prevent hair damage while maintaining the white aesthetic?

A) Potato starch

B) Corn flour

C) Wheat starch

D) Pulverized chalk

6. What is the historical significance of the 'Vicuna' fiber in the context of Andean fashion history?

- A) It was an invasive plant species used for weaving
- B) It was a wild camelid fiber reserved exclusively for Inca royalty**
- C) It was a synthetic dye derived from highland flowers
- D) It was a water-resistant leather made from mountain reptiles

7. Which plant was historically favored for the production of 'nettle cloth' in Northern Europe during the medieval period due to its durability and resistance to rot?

- A) Urtica dioica**
- B) Linum usitatissimum
- C) Cannabis sativa
- D) Boehmeria nivea

8. The fashion for 'Sable' fur reached its peak in the 16th century, primarily sourced from which specific geographic region to maintain the animal's coat density?

- A) The Andes Mountains
- B) The Siberian Taiga**
- C) The Appalachian Highlands
- D) The Scandinavian Tundra