Fibre to Fabric

C.1.Why do we wear clothes?

 We wear clothes mainly to protect our bodies against the weather, i.e. strong sunlight, extreme cold or heat, and rain. Clothes also protect us from insects.

1. How did people cover their bodies before invention of clothes?

People covered their bodies with animal skins in cold regions, and with bark, leaves and grass in warmer regions.

1. What are the differencesbetween fibre and yarn?

Fibre: A natural or synthetic thread that may be spun into yarn.

Yarn: Yarns are made up of fibres.

1. Name two fibres that are used to make clothes and two materials that are not fibres but are used to make cloth.

Wool, cotton, silk and nylon are the four fibres that are used to make clothes. Leather and fur are not fibres, but are used to make clothes.

1. List two uses of jute.

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Jute is used chiefly to make cloth for wrapping bales of raw cotton, and to make sacks and coarse cloth.

1. Which properties of synthetic fibres make them useful?

Clothes made from synthetic fibres are stronger and do not wrinkle easily. They also dry up easily. They are often mixed with natural fibres to make cloth which has strength and can also breathe and absorb sweat.

1. In most parts of India pure nylon or polyester are not worn. Why?

Because in India, a tropical wet and dry climate is more common. Nylon or polyester clothes cannot absorb sweat and does not breathe like cotton. These properties make them unsuitable for hot and humid weather.

1. Why doe jute grow better in Sunderbans area?

Jute grows best in warm, humid climates, with plenty of rainfall. It grows best in alluvial soil. The Sunderbans perfectly matches all these criterias.

D.1. What kind of climate and soil does cotton require to give a good yield?

Cotton is a warm season crop requiring moderate rainfall. It needs a fertile clayey soil with good moisture holding capacity. Black soils found in western India and southern India, and alluvial soils of northern India are suitable for growing cotton.

1. Name and explain in one sentence each steps involved in converting cotton growing on plants to cottn cloth.

The steps involved in converting cotton growing on plants to cotton cloth are

* 1. Ginning: Fibres are separated from the seeds by combing. This process is known as ginning.
	2. Spinning: Fibres are then spun into yarn, by drawing out and twisting the fibres together. This process is known as spinning.
	3. Weaving: The yarn is then used to make cloth by weaving.
1. What advantages does cotton have over synthetic cloth?

Cotton cloth is soft and lets air in. It also absorbs sweat. This results in the cooling down of the body. Cotton clothes are, therefore, comfortable to wear, especially in hot, humid weather. On the other hand, clothes made

from synthetic fibres have less air spaces in them than natural fibres and do not ‘breathe’ so well. They also cannot absorb sweat. These properties make them unsuitable for hot and humid weather.

1. Outline the process of making woolen cloth?

Wool is derived from the hair on the body of sheep and some other animals. First of all wool is removed from the sheep using special clippers and the process is called shearing. After shearing the wool is packed in bales and transported to the mills. Here it is cleaned and then combed by a machine, separated and spun into fibre. This fibre is then woven or knitted to make woollen clothes.

1. How is silk obtained?

Silk is obtained from the cocoon of the silkworm. The cocoon is boiled in water to kill the silkworm and then unwound to get silk fibre.

1. How is the jute fibre made from the jute plant?

After harvesting the stalks of the plants are tied into bundles and retted (soaked) in water for about 20 days. This process softens the

tissues and permits the fibres to be separated.

The fibres are then stripped from the stalks

in long strands and washed in clear, running water. Then they are hung up or spread out to dry.