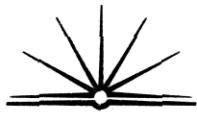


Question 14

Focus Area - Textile Arts.

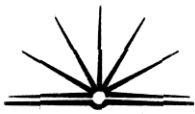
(a) there are many historical developments that have contributed to the area of textile arts. The introduction of synthetic fibres has been very prominent. Fibres such as polyester, nylon and rayon have been used to create luxurious embroidery thread for embroidery, free-arm machine work and weaving. The introduction of water soluble material, such as Solwey, has greatly expanded the options of textile arts. It allows for the production of free-arm machine work or 'scribble work', which involves sewing with a darning foot, with ~~no~~ use of an embroidery hoop onto one or more layers of dissolvable plastic fabric. It also allows for such textile art techniques as machine couching and



creation of ~~fabrics~~ hand made fabrics through placing sheets of fibres between dissolvable sheets and stitching over the top. The introduction of specialised dyes such as acid, mordant and vat dyes means greater colour ~~range~~ range for use in embroidery thread, trims, ribbons, & raw fibres such as silk and mohair. ~~and~~ the development of different printing techniques for textiles, including silk screen printing and stencilling have led to many different and unique styles of fabric decoration to be produced in the hand made textile arts areas.

Introduction of synthetic fabrics in general has led to an overall increase in variety of textile arts produced - strong, vivid fabrics with great lustre and texture such as ~~silk~~ brocades make great visual impact when used in patchwork quilts, for example.

~~Textiles~~ Innovative advances in non-woven



Fabrics have also been a ~~the~~ reasonable historical development in textile arts, as colourful felts can be mass produced for work in applique, patchworking and general textile arts.

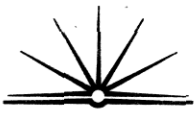
The new ability to print onto textiles with heat transfer printing has also meant great effects have been achieved.



(b) The introduction of synthetic fabrics with regards to textile arts has made a great impact on contemporary design. Lustrous embroidery threads, ribbons and decorations have been used to create intricate designs on modern apparel, such as patterned neck lines, repetitive embroidered flares on shirts and general embellishments.

Synthetic fibres used for embroidery ~~has~~ is a characteristic of such contemporary designers as Michelle Junk, who makes great use of their vivid color, variable texture and varied densities to bring her textile art-inspired works to life. Jean Paul Gaultier is another designer who favours the use of synthetic fibres in embroidery, creating very eclectic and tribal style decorations in his designs.

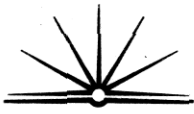
The use of water soluble plastic to create intricate and ~~different~~ glamorous textile ~~arts~~



art and decoration is becoming very impacting on contemporary textiles. Designers are able to create hand-made laces with ease on electronic sewing machines instead of with technical looms. See-through fabrics of many thread-types with vivid colours have been seen as features of contemporary evening wear, or as decorative pieces on tops and skirts.

Embellishments such as fabric flowers and 'eclectic' belts are able to be created using water soluble fabric, and it certainly expands the possibilities of contemporary garment decoration.

Creative dyeing techniques, able to be produced with the help of modern dyes, have made a strong impact on contemporary textiles. Silk dyeing, for example, is a very popular, elegant and sought after technique for fabric decoration. It is used commonly in women's wear and accessories such as

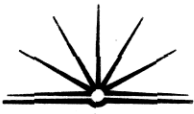


scarves, shawls, blouses and sarongs and is a very respectable form of textile art. New dyeing developments have also ~~made~~ created more colourful trims, accessories, braids, laces to use in contemporary textiles. The ability to hand-dye raw silk and mohair fibres, for example, has led to extremely vivid ^{colour} production of natural fibres which have become quite popular with contemporary textiles, as recent fashion trends have been strongly focused on bright, artistic colours. Different hand-printing techniques for textile arts have also made an impact on contemporary design. Cultures that specialise in these printing methods, such as the Japan, have been observed for their textile artwork and recreated in modern textiles. For example, Japanese wagami and samurai prints that are ~~have been~~ traditionally silk screened, stencilled or block printed in Japan have been phenomenally



popular to recreate for modern evening dresses, accessories, formal wear, jackets and home wares. The use of synthetic fabrics to produce colourful, textural and artistic patchwork-style textile arts has become a trend in high end fashion, with the recent designs of patchwork shirts, jackets and pants by such designers as Prada, Dior and again Michelle Jank, who ~~has~~ is well known for her 'patchworky' and artistic designs.

New developments in non-woven such as felts have ~~been~~ ^{made quite} a reasonable impact on contemporary textiles. Designers are often creating winter wear such as jackets, ~~and~~ pullovers and skirts by through artistic felting processes, and this is quite notable in high end fashion again; ~~what~~ for example, Akira Isogawa's very hands-on, textile art inspired felting work has seen him create beautiful combinations of felt-



-fringed ~~we~~ fine net cardigans and large, wrap around shirts in felted deep plum wool and silk.

Heat transfer printing, or 'sublimation', has become a very new trend in the textile area, being used for many ~~the~~ purposes such as t-shirt prints, flags, homewares and handkerchiefs. It is a historical development of textile arts that will continue to impact contemporary textiles.