

CHARACTERISTICS OF FIBERS WORKSHEET

Name _____ Period _____

Place a check mark next to each phrase that describes the type of fiber listed below.

1. SILK

- a. absorbs water readily
- b. is less wrinkle-resistant than cotton and flax
- c. has weaker fibers when set than when dry
- d. includes care instructions that often recommend dry cleaning

2. POLYESTER

- a. fibers are cleaned on the outside by water but are not penetrated inside
- b. may absorb oily stains
- c. dries slowly
- d. often is combined with another fiber to make a fabric

3. WOOL

- a. does not absorb water readily
- b. is less resilient than some of the manufactured fibers
- c. does not need careful handling when it is washed
- d. may shrink if heat is applied

4. NYLON

- a. does not absorb water
- b. is usually a resilient fiber
- c. could melt if iron at too high a temperature
- d. never absorbs oily stains

RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT:

Choose one of the fibers listed above. Describe why you think it is a good fiber to use in making clothing. What are the negative qualities this fiber has, if any. What fiber could combine with the one you chose to make it better for apparel use.