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 buy 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.