



Costume History

Origins of Clothing – 600 B.C.



4 Reasons for Clothing

Psychologists & Sociologists believe humans began wearing clothing for:

1. Protection
2. Decoration
3. Modesty
4. Status

Which do you think is the most important?

When Did Man First Wear Clothing?



30,000 Years Ago - The earliest evidence of clothing comes from prehistoric cave paintings; these show draped skirts, cut and sewn trousers and capes made from animal hides



Two Forms of Clothing:

Draped Dress - Created by arranging and folding, pleating, pinning or belting pieces of fabric around the body

Tailored Dress - Pieces of fabric, skins or leather are cut and sewn together in order to fit the garment more closely to the body; providing for greater warmth than draped garments.

Sketch These Examples on the Back of Your Index Card

1. Draped Clothing



2. Tailored Clothing



Functions of Clothing

- *Differentiation of Genders*
- *Designation of Age*
- *Delineation of Status*
- *Identification of Group Membership*
- *Ceremonial Uses*
- *Enhancement of Physical Beauty/Attractiveness*


Table I.1

CIVILIZATIONS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Time Period	Mesopotamia	Egypt	Crete	Greece	Etruria	Rome
B.C. 4000–3000	Sumerian Civilization	Unification of Egypt				
3000–2000	↓	Old Kingdom				
2000–1000	Rise of Babylonia	Middle Kingdom	Minoan Civilization	Mycenaean Civilization		
	↓	↓	↓	↓		
1000–800	Rise of Assyria	New Kingdom	Mycenaean	Dark Age		
800–600	↓	Decline of Native Egyptian Civilization	Greek Civilization	Homeric (archaic) Period	Rise of Etruscan Civilization	
600–500	Neo-Babylonian Period			↓		Etruscan Kings of Rome
500–400	Persian conquests of Asia and Middle East			Golden Age		Roman Republic
	↓			↓		↓
400–300	Greek Conquests	Greek Conquests		Alexander the Great		
300–200	↓	↓		↓		
					End of Etruscan Confederation	
200–A.D. 0	↓	↓	↓	↓	Roman Empire	Roman Empire
0–300	Roman Domination	Roman Domination	Roman Domination	Roman Domination	↓	↓

Early Sumerians

c. 3500-2500 B.C.

- **Kaunakes (Greek word)** 
 - Skirts worn by both men and women and made of a fleecelike material; later made of sheepskin with fringed cloth for trim
 - Wrapped around the body
 - Length denoted social standing
 - Short – Servants & soldiers
 - Long – Royalty & dieties (gods)
- **Chignon**
 - A bun of hair at the back of the neck which was held in place by a fillet, or headband
 - Common fashion for men and women; hair was also worn straight to shoulders



Later Sumerians & Babylonians

c. 2500-1000 B.C.

- **Tunics, loinclothes & skirts worn by the poor**
- **Nobles/Upper classes wore this draped, square garment**
 - Usually with woven or embroidered trim and/or fringe
- **Hair & Hats**
 - Beards became the predominant fashion after 2300 B.C.
 - Turbans – close-fitting at the crown w/padded roll at the edge
- **Footwear**
 - Men & Women – Bare feet or sandals; later a pointed-toe shoe with a pompom developed for ceremonial purposes

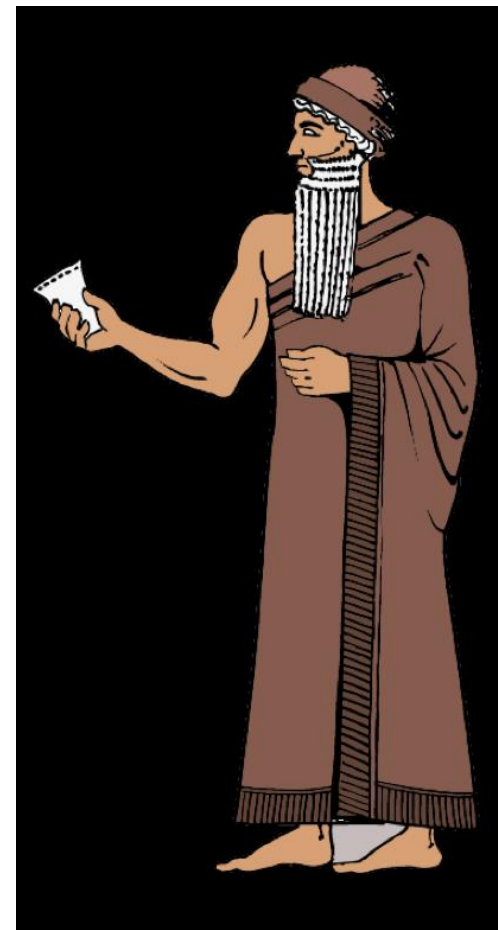


Sketch These Examples on the Back of Your Index Card

1. Kaunakes



2. Babylonian Square Garment



Assyrians

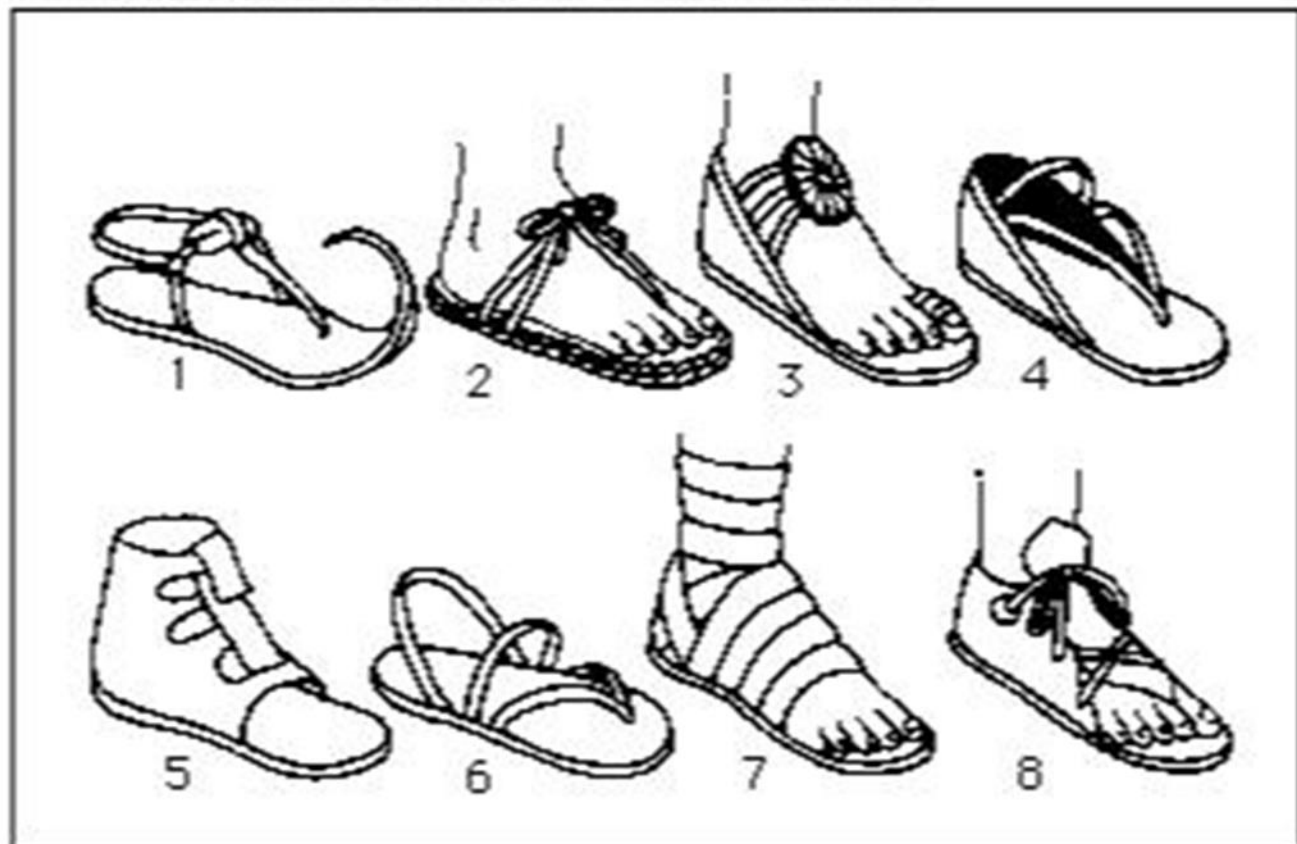
c. 1000-600 B.C.

- **Assyrians adopted later Babylonian costume; hard to see the difference**
 - Wool continued as dominant fabric; cotton was grown but not widely used
- **Tunic** – T-shaped garment w/openings at the top for head & arms
 - Probably made of linen & worn as undergarment to prevent skin irritation from wool outer garments
 - Sleeves/sleeveless
 - Replaced the skirts and draped garments of earlier Babylonians
- **Hair/Hats**
 - Curled beards & hair – men (used curling irons)
 - Shorter for lower class
 - Fez/Tarbush
- **Sandals and Closed-toe shoes**



Shoes

Shoes: 1. Egyptian (1200 B.C.), 2. Egyptian, 3. Babylonian, 4. Assyrian (900 B.C.), 5. Greek krepis, 6. Greek pediba, 7. Roman calceus, 8. Roman crepida. (HBD p. 946)



Sketch These Examples on the Back of Your Index Card

1. & 2. Assyrians

