A CULTURE as Seen Through Its Textiles

1 On July 26, 1925, archaeologists made a dramatic discovery in the desert of the Paracas peninsula, approximately 150 miles south of the Peruvian capital of Lima. In the desert off the Pacific coast they found an underground network of tombs from the Paracas and Nazca cultures that dated back to the fourth century B.C. Such a group of elaborately interconnected tombs is sometimes called a necropolis, a Greek word meaning “city of the dead.” The Paracas necropolis contained beautiful, richly decorated gold objects, along with hundreds of perfectly preserved human bodies carefully wrapped in intricately woven, embroidered cloth that was as well preserved as the bodies it contained.

2 Woven cloth, or textiles, has of course played both a practical and a ceremonial role in world cultures for thousands of years. The textiles found at Paracas were probably specially made for use in burials and almost surely revealed the social status of the people buried there.

3 Images woven into garments or added to them were a form of communication in ancient cultures. Whether painted, embroidered, or decorated with metal or brightly colored feathers, many textiles contained important symbolic information. The most common images found on the Paracas textiles were those of birds, cats, snakes, rodents, llamas, and fish. By showing the animals that were native to the region, these pictures represented in one way or another the three basic realms of nature that daily affected the people who made the pictures: the sky, the earth, and the sea. Human forms were also shown. These pictures no doubt reflected concepts important to the culture, such as nature gods, the individual’s ancestors, or the individual’s social status.

4 Today, people in Peru and neighboring Bolivia continue to weave ponchos, tunics, and hats that use some of the same designs found in their people’s textiles over 2,000 years ago.
1. What is Paracas?
   A. another name for Peru
   B. a Peruvian peninsula and the name of a people who once lived there
   C. the capital of Peru
   D. a type of Peruvian textile

2. What is a necropolis?
   F. a desert in Peru
   G. a place for storing ancient gold objects
   H. a vast underground burial site
   J. a type of Greek city

3. Which one of the following statements is not true?
   A. The modern textiles of Peru are totally different from those found in ancient tombs.
   B. The people of Peru still use many of the same design elements that their ancestors did.
   C. Weaving is a practice that dates back to ancient times.
   D. The tombs in Paracas were discovered in the twentieth century.

4. Why were images included in the textiles of ancient peoples?
   F. for purely religious reasons
   G. to communicate information of some sort
   H. to preserve the body of the person around whom it was wrapped
   J. to impress visitors to the tombs

5. “Woven cloth, or textiles, has . . . played both a practical and a ceremonial role in world cultures for thousands of years.” Make a list of three “Practical” and three “Ceremonial” uses of textiles today.

6. Choose any well-known person and describe the textile that you would design for his or her burial cloth. Describe the symbols (colors, objects, figures) that you would use and explain why you chose them.
Test 13

Nombre: __________________________________________ Fecha: ___________________

1 A B C D 2 F G H J 3 A B C D

4 F G H J

5

READ
THINK
EXPLAIN

6

READ
THINK
EXPLAIN
Necesito comprar ropa

¿Te gusta ir de compras, pero no te gusta estar con muchas personas? Lee este artículo de la solución de Margarita para este problema.

1. Margarita, una joven argentina de dieciséis años, tiene un problema. Necesita comprar ropa para sus vacaciones en Chile, pero está muy ocupada. No le gusta ir al centro comercial porque siempre hay muchas personas por allí. Decide visitar uno de los sitios en el Internet para buscar la ropa que necesita.

2. Primero, Margarita busca un sitio donde se especializan en ropa para jóvenes. El sitio que más le gusta tiene un catálogo con mucha variedad de ropa moderna. En la página principal, hay información sobre cómo seleccionar el departamento donde quiere comprar unos artículos. Esa página indica cómo pagar por lo que compra y cómo comunicarse con la compañía. También incluye información sobre garantías, descuentos y qué opciones tiene si no le gusta lo que compra.

3. Margarita selecciona dos jeans, tres camisetas de diferentes colores, dos pantalones cortos, un suéter negro, una sudadera morada, una chaqueta y unos zapatos. También compra el especial de la semana, una minifalda azul que cuesta sólo veinte pesos. ¡Perfecto!

4. Luego, Margarita tiene una pregunta: “¿Cómo puedo determinar si esta ropa y estos zapatos me van a quedar bien?” Decide consultar la página donde hay información para ayudar a los clientes a determinar esto.

5. Después, Margarita decide pagar por toda la ropa con su tarjeta de crédito, pero tiene otra pregunta: “¿Garantiza este sitio la protección de mi información personal?” Consulta otra página donde informan a los clientes que sí hay protección.

6. Cuando la ropa llega a su casa, Margarita está muy contenta. Toda la ropa que compró le queda bien y los colores son brillantes.
What is Margarita’s problem?

A. She needs clothes for her vacation but doesn’t have enough money to buy them.
B. She needs clothes for her vacation but doesn’t like to shop in crowded malls.
C. She needs to replace the clothes that she lost during her vacation.
D. She needs to buy vacation clothes before the stores close.

What type of information is not mentioned on the main page of the Web site that Margarita consults?

F. how to pay for your purchases
G. how to choose the department you’re interested in
H. which items are discounted
J. which items are no longer available

According to the article, why is Margarita concerned about ordering from an online catalog?

A. She’s worried that she won’t receive the items on time.
B. She’s worried that her personal information might not be protected.
C. She’s worried that she can’t return the items if she’s unhappy with them.
D. She’s worried that the items might look different from the way they look in the catalog.

How does Margarita feel after the package arrives?

F. unhappy because it didn’t arrive on time
G. unhappy because the clothes did not fit well
H. happy because the clothes fit well and the colors were bright
J. happy because the company included a special gift in the package

¿Prefieres ir de compras en un centro comercial o en el Internet? ¿Por qué?

Imagina que vas a crear un sitio en el Internet para ropa deportiva para jóvenes. Inventas un nombre para el sitio, decide qué tipo de información vas a incluir en la página principal, qué tipos de fotos o dibujos vas a incluir y cuánto cuesta cada artículo de ropa. En tu hoja de papel, dibuja la página principal de tu sitio. Debes dibujar una página atractiva que a los estudiantes de tu escuela les gustaría visitar.