

Názov projektu: Posilnenie poznávacích schopností žiakov experimentami v moderných školských laboratóriách
ITMS: 261 1013 0609

Pracovný list – aktivita 2.2

Téma: Používanie nylonu(Nylonové pančuchy) v povojnovej Európe	Škola: Gymnázium Giraltovce	Trieda: 3.A
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HISTORY OF NYLON

Elegant and comfortable tights are now taken for granted, however it was only in the 1960's that "nylons" became available all over the world.

Since the knitting machine was invented in 1589 by Reverend William Lee, stockings made from wool, silk and cotton appeared for the first time. These early stockings were frequently referred to as hose and were mainly worn by men.

The stockings market was changed in the 20th Century when it became acceptable for women to show their legs, and with the invention of nylon in the 1930's an affordable alternative to silk stockings became available.

In 1935 Julian Hill, working with a team led by Wallace Carothers, discovered that by pulling a heated rod from a mixture of coal tar, water and alcohol a strong, sheer filament formed that was silk-like in appearance.

Two years later the process was patented by DuPont, and in 1939 the new synthetic fibre - Nylon - was shown at the World Trade Fair in New York; The NY from New York, providing the first two letters of the name nylon.

The first nylon stockings appeared in New York stores on May 15, 1940 and over 780,000 pairs were sold in the first day alone.

In the first year, 64 million pairs were sold in the US, and nylons soon became the generic name for all hosiery products containing nylon.

In the late 1950's yarn manufacturers discovered that they could add stretch to nylon by crimping it under heat, then in 1959 Du Pont invented Lycra© which can stretch up to seven times its original length without breaking and subsequently recover its shape. Thus dramatically improving the fit and comfort of hosiery as well as its strength.

In recent years, hosiery technology has been developed and new products are now commonly available from bodytoning control top tights and thigh-highs (hold-ups) to moisturising and massaging tights.

Adapted from www.mytights.com

Task 1:

Reading comprehension

Answer the questions!

1. By who was worn the first tights made of wool.. ?
2. Who invented the nylon?
3. Describe the procedure of making nylon?
4. Where and when the first nylon stockings were sold?
5. How many pairs of nylon tights were sold during the first year ?
6. What material invented by DuPont improved nylon stockings?
7. What sorts of stockings are available nowadays?