

Preparing for Life and Career © 2013

Chapter 23: Fibers, Fabrics, and Sewing Tools—Read, Discuss, and Analyze Activity

Fabric Choices

READ the case study

Madeline walks to school each morning, which is about a 20 minute walk. The spring season has just begun and Madeline knows that it will be raining frequently this month. To prepare for the season, Madeline bought a new silk coat to use as a raincoat. On her way to school, it started to rain. Although Madeline has an umbrella, it is still windy and the rain made her coat wet. As she is sitting in her first class, she notices that all of her clothes seem to be damp. She is wondering why the silk coat did not repel the water.

DISCUSS this question in class:

Why is silk *not* a good fabric to use as a raincoat?

ANALYZE the following statements about the case study to decide which are true and which are false.

- T F The silk of Madeline's coat is an example of a natural fiber.

- T F The silk of Madeline's coat is an example of a protein fiber.

- T F Using antistatic finish on the silk coat may improve the coat's resistance to water.

- T F The most effective raincoats are made from blends.