

**1. Read the following passage carefully and compose a "sentence outline" for it.**

Smart Ravens

A flock of ravens ravaging a dead body may technically be called an unkindness. People hate them, but ravens are not terrifying. Do they have sharp, curved beaks(鸟喙)that they use to tear dead animals to pieces? Yes. Are their calls close to a horrifying and mysterious laugh? Most definitely. But that doesn't make them evil. Rather, they are masterminds, good at making awesome plans for the future.

The latest findings of ravens come from two Swedish scientists who literally put ravens to test. Up until now, we know that ravens have some ability to plan ahead for their own food needs because they hide food to dig up later. Then again, squirrels store food in the ground for later and they're, well, not the smartest. They forget about 75 percent of their nuts, accidentally planting millions of trees in the process. And if "stupid" squirrels can be biologically programmed to store food for later maybe ravens aren't as smart as we thought. Except obviously they are.

Ravens, as it turns out, will often choose to give up a tasty nut now in favor of getting a better treat later. Faced with a piece of food and a tool that they know can open a box containing more delicious food, they will generally choose the tool- even if they don't have the box yet. They've learned that when researchers present them with the box in 15 minutes' time, they can use that tool to unlock their prize. That's great vision right there. Even small children often choose to eat one ice-cream immediately rather than wait a few minutes for more.

This shouldn't come as such a shock Ravens also steal from each other by watching competitors hide food, noting the location, and returning later to dig it up. And because they get stolen from, some ravens will actually pretend to hide food to mislead thieves. What's more, they can tell other ravens where to find a juicy, rotting animal body and team up to scare off their competitors. That ability-to communicate information about a distant location -is shared only by ants, bees and humans. Besides deceiving one another to keep a food source a secret, they can also take advantage of other animals. For example, they would call wolves over to a dead body that hasn't broken down enough yet so that the wolves can rip it apart, leaving more convenient scraps for the ravens to eat.

If all that doesn't make you love and embrace our raven lords, nothing will. These birds are geniuses in their own right--so what if their look is a little weird? Their intelligence isn't to be feared; it's to be revered.

**2. Read the following passage carefully and compose a “sentence outline” for it.**

**Styles of Dress as Reflections of Social Conditions**

Something that becomes very apparent when we study the topic of fashion is that clothes and style are related to so much more than merely an individual's appearance. For thousands of years, fashion and style have been primary indicators about a person's social status, sexuality, wealth, individuality, and overall personality attributes.

In the 20th century alone, each decade has been marked by distinctly different manners for dress for both men and women. Our Halloween tradition exemplifies this very clearly with “costumes” such as a 1920's “flapper girl” and the 1960's “hippie.” With deeper consideration, however, these differing fashion styles can be viewed as representative of the related social conditions occurring at the time.

As stated by Pascoe, “The fashion of the 1920's reflected the Jazz Age perfectly. It was made for fast automobiles and Charleston dance. For the first time in western fashion the knee was socially acceptable.” Although there are many theories regarding what causes fashion to change, the fact that social climate is reflected in styles of dress has a great deal of support. Perhaps the reason why so much change occurred in women's dress in the early decades of the century is that so many changes occurred regarding women's roles and fights within that same time frame.

Another decade in which fashion was strongly indicative of the underlying social conditions is the turbulent 1960's. One of the most noted developments accredited to this decade is the introduction of the miniskirt. Many social historians relate the introduction of the miniskirt to the introduction of the birth control pill. Women became sexually liberated and the “free love” era began. These miniskirts came to symbolize the new liberation for women and the social climate of the decade. As stated in *Vogue* at the end of the decade, “The length of your skirt is how you feel this moment.”

Towards the end of the 1960's, younger generations were rejecting the establishment and rejecting the idea of high fashion along with it. Students wore long hair, faded denim jeans, and flamboyant patterns. Many wore combat jackets and surplus shirts to anti-war rallies. As Hoeymaker stated, “By the end of the decade, cheap, flamboyant clothes became expensive designer labels. The hippie style became high fashion; in fact ‘anti-fashion’ became the biggest fashion of all.” In this case, clothes became a form of protest.

Overall, there are countless examples of how fashion is influenced by the social climate of the times. Over the past thousands of years, the socially “appropriate” styles of dress for men and women have varied tremendously. Regardless of what exactly constituted “stylish” fashion during any given time period, one thing that remains constant is that fashion has always been a significant aspect of one's life and the time in which they lived.