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ReFashionized

Fashion Evolution towards Sustainability

WORKSHOP PLAN UNIT 6

By Jugend- & Kulturprojekt e.V.



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THE HISTORY OF FASHION BOOKLET **UNIT 6**

1920s and 1930s
Emancipation and the Great
Depression

WORKSHOP PLAN

DEVELOPED BY JUGEND- & KULTURPROJEKT e.V.

THE HISTORY OF FASHION BOOKLET

UNIT 6: 1920s AND 1930s- EMANCIPATION AND THE GREAT DEPRESSION – WORKSHOP PLAN

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1. General Instructions

This comprehensive Workshop Plan will provide a structured framework for implementing workshops that delve into the dynamic relationship between fashion and pivotal events/changes throughout history.

By following this plan, youth workers will obtain an overview of a possible structure to follow in the implementation of a workshop that combines and explores the connections between the history of fashion and the PESTEL framework. It aims to equip youth workers with the tools and resources needed to facilitate thought-provoking activities and interactive workshops focused on the impact of fashion on society.

On the other hand, more details on the activities foreseen and mentioned in the Workshop Plan are found in the [Activity Sheet Unit 6](#).

2. Workshop Plan

Unit Reference Code	<i>History of Fashion Booklet: Unit 6</i>
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Title	1920s and 1930s – Emancipation and The Great Depression
Workshop Duration	3 hours
Target Groups	Young people aged 16-25

Introduction
The main topics of the following workshop plan and the unit that refers to are:
This interactive workshop will discuss the history of fashion in the 1920s and 1930s explaining how fashion was affected by political, economic, social, technological,

environmental, and legal factors and what the trends back at those times were. The trainer will guide the participants in reflecting on the evolution of fashion through various activities including debates, creative exercises, and group activities.

Workshop Objectives

Identify the skills and learning objectives acquired during the workshop.

At the end of the workshop, the participants will:

- ✓ Understand the impact of historical events on fashion based on the PESTEL framework
- ✓ Critically analyse the interconnections between fashion and historical context, as well as external influences
- ✓ Gain insights into how fashion and creativity can challenge and/or reflect social norms.

Preparation

Describe the preliminary steps to follow to properly prepare before the workshop or some expedients to organise the place for the implementation of the activity.

The lesson plan requires familiarity with the historical period, referring to its main events, inventions, and fashion trends. The facilitator is invited to assess the preparation through a checklist:

- ☐ prepare notes and key points of the different parts of the lesson.

- ☐ check in advance the technical devices that you might need. Create a series of questions that you can use to interact with the participants during the explanation.
- ☐ create a series of questions that you can use to interact with the participants during the explanation.
- ☐ check in advance that the PowerPoint is complete and additional resources/links are available.
- ☐ ensure that the space is arranged appropriately for the chosen activities.
- ☐ gather all the material for the group activity.
- ☐ prepare material for reflection and feedback collection.

Methods

Describe the methodology used to ensure a learner-centred approach. Some possible workshop methods are presentation, discussion, team activities assignment, self-reflection and assessment, role-playing, case studies, storytelling, etc.

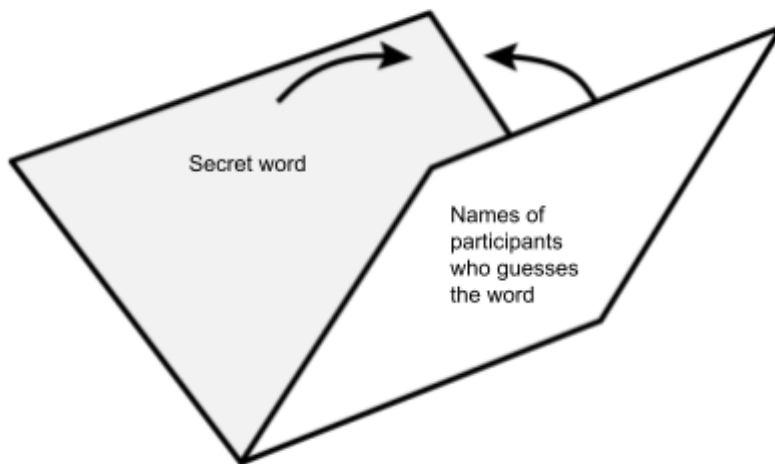
This unit foresees the combination of a theoretical part, visual presentations, and group interactions. The workshop will provide the participants with an overview of the historical background and fashion trends to build connections among them. Indeed, through visual elements (videos, PowerPoint presentation, and images) the main points will be represented and clarified. Group activity will be added to deepen the knowledge of the topic and to promote critical thinking, communication, and public speaking.

Icebreaking Activity

Suggest 1 icebreaker linked to the topic of the unit to create a friendly and comfortable environment for the learners/participants.

Guess What?

Each participant will be given a piece of paper folded in half, containing a secret word inside. On the top and outside of the paper, participants will write the names of those who correctly guessed the word. Participants will move around to guess words, and upon correct guesses, their names will be added to the front of the paper. The winner will be the participant who guessed more words.



Source: [Wikipedia Commons](#)

Workshop Plan

Nr.	Activity name (title and description) brief	Duration (min.)	Method (presentation, discussion,	Materials (paper, pencils,
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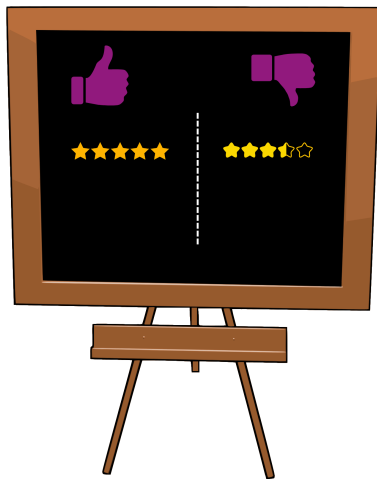
			roleplay, storytelling, gamification, art creation, etc.)	boards, laptop, speakers, chairs, etc.)
1	Introduction	10	Presentation	//
2	Guess what?	15-20	Ice-breaking	Paper, pens or pencils
3	1920s: Roaring Twenties and Emancipation Timeline	20	Discussion Gamification	Markers/ pencils, flip chart or paper, internet connection
4	Fashion Extravagance	20	Presentation	PowerPoint, laptop, screen and projector
5	True or false debate	20	Reflection Debate	Annex I
6	1930s: The Great Depression	15	Presentation	PowerPoint, laptop, screen and projector
7	Chic on a budget	20	Presentation	PowerPoint, laptop, screen and projector
8	Thirties Gallery	30	Group discussion	Large poster board or flip chart paper;

				Markers, sticky notes Tape
9	Conclusion	10	Discussion	Board, markers, stickers
10	Thumbs up – Thumbs down	10	Feedback	Sticky notes, pencils or markers, flip chart

Evaluation

Describe an evaluation activity that could be implemented to collect feedback from participants to assess the workshop's effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.

Divide a flip chart paper into two columns named "Thumbs Up" (positive) and "Thumbs Down" (negative). Ask participants to silently indicate their feedback by placing a minimum of 3 sticky notes in the corresponding column.
Under *Thumbs Up*, they will provide feedback on the topic or activity they liked the most.
Under *Thumbs Down*, they will provide feedback on what can be improved, and which part was more difficult or less interesting.
Allow a few minutes for participants to share their feedback visually, and then briefly discuss the responses as a group.



Source: [Canva](https://www.canva.com/)

Facilitator's Notes

Reflect on the effectiveness of the workshop. Use this section to make notes for future adjustments. Below you can find some inspiring questions to guide you in the self-reflection process.

- ❖ Did the activities engage and create an interactive and supportive environment for participants to learn?
- ❖ Did the participants interact easily? Did the assignments promote equal participation?
- ❖ Did the combination of presentations and group activity ensure coherency in terms of content and understanding?
- ❖ Was enough time allocated to all the activities?

Theoretical Framework

This section serves as the introductory page for the theoretical presentations. Here, we offer a summary and overview of the theoretical components integrated into the workshop plan. Its purpose is to guide youth workers and trainers

regarding the topics covered in activities that *do not* follow non-formal education methods.

The content outlined here is also included in the PowerPoint presentation.

❖ Introduction

Welcome to our workshop where we will embark on a journey through the realm of fashion history!

Today we will navigate through the historical, political, economic, social, and cultural landscapes of two decades: the 20s and the 30s. The green arrows symbolise our exploration of these external factors, essential to better understand their profound impact on the tapestry of fashion history, here represented by the purple arrows.

So, how do we plan to unveil and dive into these connections? Through presentations, debates, and group discussions. Together, we will uncover and analyse the intricate threads that knot external factors and fashion evolution and trends.

❖ **Fashion Extravagance (introduction)**

This part of the workshop features a presentation highlighting the main characteristics of the Roaring Twenties. It sheds light on various connections with historical events (economic prosperity, right to vote, consumerism) while pinpointing the significant changes in fashion. Through images and graphs, the presentation aims to enhance participants' comprehension and assist even those with limited expertise in navigating the complex landscape of fashion during this period. Topics include the bold style of flapper girls, the revolution of gender norms through la garçonne style, loose silhouettes, and the shift towards less formal suits for men.

The **1920s witnessed profound social transformations** following the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920, granting **women the right to vote**. During wartime, women assumed responsibilities traditionally reserved for men, which, combined with their newfound political voice, not only contributed to their increasing involvement in society but also ignited a process of liberation and confidence among them. Women emerged as active participants in society, particularly in its economy, as urbanisation and economic growth led to an increasing number of **women entering the workforce**.

Glitz and glamour were the soul of the Roaring Twenties, nevertheless, simplicity was the main trend in dress. For women, this meant shorter skirts and simple shapes, while men enjoyed casual suits.

Prohibitionism, which entered into force in 1920, also left an indelible mark on the Roaring Twenties. The prohibition of manufacturing, transporting, and selling alcohol not only fuelled organised crime but also “underground social events”, characterised by a sense of rebellion against authority and accompanied by jazz music and lively entertainment. Indeed, the Roaring Twenties overlapped and intertwined with the Jazz Age. **Jazz** became the soundtrack of this decade, symbolising freedom and entertainment. F. Scott Fitzgerald captured the essence of the decade in works such as “The Great Gatsby”.

❖ **1930s: The Great Depression (introduction)**

From the exuberance and liveliness of the Roaring Twenties, we will now enter a decade characterised by opposite feelings.

The Great Depression, which lasted from 1929 to 1939, was the worst economic downturn in the history of the industrialised world, with worldwide consequences, poverty, unemployment, and insecurity bringing political chaos that did not spare the fashion industry. The 1930s Great Depression had a significant impact on Europe’s political scene. For the most part, far-right parties benefited from economic stagnation and witnessed an increase in prominence. At the time, authoritarian regimes emerged in the majority of European nations, with the Nazi state in Germany being the most significant. By the decade's end, the US was still reeling from the Great Depression, while Europe had joined the Second World War.

❖ **Chic on a budget (introduction)**

The fashion industry underwent significant transformations to cope with the historical, social, economic, and cultural situation of the decade. It mirrored the hardship and challenges caused by the Great Depression. Austerity and conservatism soon replaced the opulence and vivacity of the Roaring Twenties.

Despite the economic constraints, innovative designers continued to thrive, introducing new techniques and styles, while Hollywood created the perfect gateway to escape the troubled reality.

❖ Conclusion

1920s:

Emerging from the ashes of World War I, a newfound sense of optimism, accompanied by economic prosperity and societal change, welcomed an unprecedented era of liberation. Societal changes, such as the emancipation of women, and cultural expressions like Jazz music and dance, were mirrored in fashion. The 'flapper' and 'la garçonne' aesthetics became symbols of disregard for convention and a message of freedom. The hallmark of 1920s fashion was its radical departure from the restrictive norms of previous decades. Women revealed the newfound freedom of movement afforded by loose silhouettes and scandalously short hemlines, while men adopted less formal attire, embracing sportswear and relaxed suits as symbols of modernity and leisure. The majority of materials throughout the Roaring Twenties were frequently airy and flowing, emphasising comfort above all else. Some of these materials include rayon, wool, and stretchy knit fabrics borrowed from sporting clothes; velvet and fur for cold weather attire; flannel and tweed; adornments such as glass beading, sequins, feathers, and embroidery; and lame with a metallic glittery sheen for evening dresses.

1930s:

In the 1930s, fashion was influenced by various challenges: economic struggles, societal shifts, and the emergence and spread of far-right ideologies. The Great Depression fueled unrest and discontent, which ultimately contributed to political upheavals and the outbreak of World War II. Reflecting the austerity of the '30s, fashion embraced a feminine silhouette, characterised by long hemlines and waistlines in the natural position. Broad shoulders or shoulder pads took the central stage to craft a more romantic and delicate style. Despite the hardship, Hollywood emerged as a means to escape reality and became a real trendsetter. For men, the 1930s saw a shift towards a more casual and relaxed style, epitomised by the popularity of blazers, sports jackets, and sportswear-inspired attire. Key trends of the 1930s, such as the introduction of the Hooverette, zipper, bias cut, and bold prints, demonstrated a spirit of innovation and adaptability amidst adversity, with fashion remaining accessible through solutions like toiles.

External resources

Add any external resource that can be used to enhance understanding of the topic and support the implementation of the workshop.

- Jurgen's checklist for Workshop Organizers, <https://medium.com/@jurgenappelo/jurgens-checklist-for-workshop-organizers-9e53b658a492>
- How flappers of the Roaring Twenties Redefined Womanhood, Sarah Pruitt/History.com, 2021, <https://www.history.com/news/flappers-roaring-20s-women-empowerment>
- A chronicle of the America's Jazz Age "The Golden 20S" documentary, Periscope Film, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbplgiQZBeY>
- How Coco Chanel changed the course of women's fashion, Marianna Cerini/CCN style, 2021, <https://edition.cnn.com/style/article/coco-chanel-fashion-50-years/index.html>
- Flappers: topics in Chronicling America, Library of Congress, <https://guides.loc.gov/chronicling-america-flappers>
- The 1930s: Fashion, Art and Hollywood, Eric Feigenbaum/vmsd, 2001, <https://vmsd.com/the-1930s-fashion-art-and-hollywood/>
- Life in the Thirties 1930s documentary, Periscope Film, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jj9rLgtiFWc>
- The rise and Fall of Vionnet, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CT58Sh-4MnU>
- 1930s Fashion Trends: Clothing Styles & The Great Depression, Joanna Elizabeth/Fashion Gone Rogue, 2021, <https://www.fashiongonerogue.com/1930s-fashion-accessories-women-trends/>

Partners:

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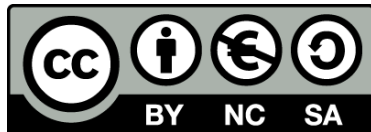
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