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Chapter 3 – Fibre to Fabric

Question 1: You must be familiar with the following nursery rhymes:

- (i) 'Baa baa black sheep, have you any wool.'
(ii) 'Mary had a little lamb, whose fleece was white as snow.'

Answer the following: (a) Which parts of the black sheep have wool?

(b) What is meant by the white fleece of the lamb?

Answer: (a) The fine and soft under-hair that grows close to the skin of the sheep have wool that is why wool is obtained from the hairy fibres (hair) of the sheep.

(b) White fleece of the lamb refers to the white coloured hair of the lamb. The natural fleece of sheep and goats is black, brown or white.

Question 2: The silkworm is (a) a caterpillar, (b) a larva. Choose the correct option.

- (i) a (ii) b **(iii) both a and b** (iv) neither a nor b

Question 3: Which of the following does not yield wool?

- (i) Yak (ii) Camel (iii) Goat **(iv) Woolly dog**

Question 4: What is meant by the following terms?

- (i) Rearing (ii) Shearing (iii) Sericulture

Answer: (i) **Rearing:** Rearing means helping someone to grow up. It is raising and taking care of livestock (e.g. cows, buffaloes, goats etc.); for commercial purposes. These animals are fed, provided shelters and are bred for better yield like milk, meat, wool etc. For example, Sheep are reared mainly for the wool. They are mainly reared in areas with low rainfall. Reared sheep eat grass and leaves. They are also fed on a mixture of pulses, corn, jowar, oil cakes and minerals. In winters they are kept indoors and fed on dry fodder, leaves and grains.

(ii) **Shearing:** It is the process of removal of fleece along with a thin layer of skin from the body of sheep. Once a sheep develops a thick coat of hair, it is shaved off to obtain wool. The process of cutting off the woolen fleece of sheep with a thin layer of skin is called shearing. It is done by the machines similar to those used by barbers to remove hairs.

(ii) **Sericulture:** Sericulture refers to the rearing of silkworms to obtain silk. The breeding and management of silk worms for the production of silk is known as sericulture. Different types of silk (e.g. mulberry silk, Tassar silk etc.) with different textures are obtained from different varieties of silk moths.

Question 5: Given below is a sequence of steps in the processing of wool. Which are the missing steps?

Add them. Shearing, _____, sorting, _____, _____, _____

Answer: Shearing, scouring, sorting, picking of burrs, dyeing of fibres, making of yarn

Question 6: Make sketches of the two stages in the life history of the silk moth which are directly related to the production of silk.

Answer: The two stages in the life history of silk moth directly related to silk production are

