

Tweed (ツイード<布の名前>)

Tweed is the name given to a type of thick cloth that was first developed by farmers in Scotland and Ireland. Long pieces of wool are dyed different colors and then put together to make a cloth with a pattern. The weather in Scotland and Ireland is often cold and wet, so this warm, waterproof material was very popular with the farmers as they worked in the fields.

Tweed did not become well known outside farming communities until the 19th century. At that time, wealthy English people were buying large areas of land in Scotland. These were known as estates, and they were used by their owners for hunting and fishing. Hunters became interested in tweed because it is mainly brown, green, or gray, so wild animals find it difficult to see people wearing clothes made of the material. The wealthy English owners began having patterns of tweed made for their estates. After Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, had a unique pattern made for the people on a royal estate in Scotland, the cloth became famous throughout the United Kingdom.

Clothes made from tweed became standard items for wealthy people to wear in the countryside. Men would wear blue or black suits when doing business in towns and cities, and tweed suits when they went to relax on their estates. Ordinary people began to imitate them by wearing tweed for outdoor hobbies such as playing golf or cycling. The fashion for wearing tweed also spread to the United States and the rest of Europe, and tweed became even more popular in the 20th century when various famous fashion designers used it for their clothes.

(第2段) wealthy 「裕福な」 estate 「農園, 地所」

hunting 「狩り, 狩猟」 mainly 「主に, 大部分は」

material 「生地, 素材」 royal 「王家の」

throughout 「～じゅうで, ～全体で」

(第3段) clothes 「衣服」 standard 「標準の, 一般的な」

countryside 「田舎」 would 「～したものだ」 suit 「スーツ」

ordinary 「普通の, 並の」 imitate 「～を真似する」

outdoor 「屋外の」 fashion 「流行」

spread 「普及する, 広まる」 the rest of ～ 「～の残り全部」

even 「(比較級の前で) 一層, さらに」 various 「様々な」

- (30) Tweed was popular with farmers in Scotland and Ireland because
- 1 it helped keep them warm and dry while they were outside.
 - 2 it helped them to make some money in their free time.
 - 3 it allowed them to use any extra wool they produced.
 - 4 it allowed them to teach their culture to younger people.
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- (31) How did Prince Albert help to make tweed well-known?
- 1 He often went hunting on land owned by farmers in Scotland.
 - 2 He bought an estate in Scotland where there was a tweed factory.
 - 3 He was seen wearing it while traveling in Scotland.
 - 4 He ordered a special tweed pattern for an estate in Scotland.
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- (32) Ordinary people wore tweed when they were
- 1 doing business in towns and cities.
 - 2 visiting the United States and Europe.
 - 3 trying to show that they were farmers.
 - 4 enjoying leisure activities outside.
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