

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## READING

# What did Otzi the Iceman Wear?

### Vocabulary Preview

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

1. undisturbed	<u>E</u>	A. long, thin material used to tie things together
2. well preserved	_____	B. not showing many signs of age
3. strap	_____	C. the hair that grows on the bodies of some animals
4. leather	_____	D. preserved animal skins (often used for clothing)
5. thigh	_____	E. not moved or touched by anyone or anything
6. fur	_____	F. a small carpet used to cover the ground or floor
7. mat	_____	G. the top part of a leg between the knee and hip
8. string	_____	H. a long, thin piece of material (such as leather) used to keep something in place

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Change the forms of verbs and nouns when necessary.

1. My shoes are made of leather.
2. I hurt my \_\_\_\_\_ while I was playing tennis last week.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ on my shoe is broken, so my shoe keeps falling off.
4. I need some \_\_\_\_\_ to tie around this box.
5. I'm allergic to cat and dog \_\_\_\_\_. It makes me sneeze.
6. Jack wants to buy a new \_\_\_\_\_ to put on the floor.
7. Footprints will stay on the moon \_\_\_\_\_ for millions of years.
8. Most Egyptian mummies are very \_\_\_\_\_.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

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Topics: Clothes



# What did Otzi the Iceman Wear?

In Europe, along what is now known as the Italian-Austrian border, a man died. More accurately, [REDACTED] scientists, this man was killed by an arrow in his back. We will never know why someone killed him, but we do know that his body lay there, [REDACTED]<sup>1</sup>, for about 5,200 years until two German [REDACTED] found it high in the mountains in September 1991. When the hikers found his body, it was covered by ice and snow (as it had been since the time he died). This [REDACTED] in his body being extremely [REDACTED] [REDACTED], similar to that of an Egyptian mummy. Many books have been written about this man (who people often call "Otzi" - after the Otzal Alps, the mountains where he was found). These books are popular because Otzi lived six or seven hundred years before the Great Pyramids were built! And not only can his body teach us a lot about the time he lived in, but so can the clothes he was wearing – clothes that were also very well preserved!

At the time of Otzi's death, he was fully clothed. He was wearing a bearskin cap with a chin [REDACTED]<sup>3</sup> (made of [REDACTED]) that helped to keep it on his head. On his upper body, he was wearing a long leather coat that also covered his [REDACTED]<sup>5</sup>. The inside of his coat had [REDACTED]<sup>6</sup> on it which protected him from the cold. Scientists also found an object made of grass that may have been a [REDACTED]<sup>6</sup> (to sleep on) . . . or [REDACTED] it was a kind of [REDACTED]<sup>7</sup> which further protected him from the weather. On the lower part of his body, he wore "leggings" (which he wore much like modern pants or trousers) made of sheep and goat leather – and also a "loincloth" (similar to modern underwear). Around his waist was a leather belt where he carried a small [REDACTED] made of stone and [REDACTED].

Scientists found only one of his shoes, but that one shoe is very [REDACTED]. The bottom of the shoe (the sole) – and also the top of the shoe – are made of leather from a bear, a deer and a cow. The shoe was held together with a kind of [REDACTED]<sup>8</sup> made from a tree. Soft dried grass was placed inside the shoe. After studying the shoe in a German museum, Petr Hlavacek, a Czech shoe expert, made his own "Otzi shoes" and wore them. He said they were surprisingly [REDACTED] and "perfectly able to protect your feet."

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### How Much Do You Understand?



- **Complete the statements.**

1. The Iceman died about
2. His body and his clothes
3. He was wearing leather
4. He was carrying a small
5. His shoes were made from
6. A Czech shoe expert studied

- A. clothes on both his upper and lower body.
- B. were well preserved in the snow.
- C. three different kinds of leather
- D. the shoes and made his own Otzi shoes.
- E. 5,200 years ago.
- F. stone knife on his belt.

### Discuss

- **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. What information in this story did you find the most interesting? Why?
2. How might life have been different for people living 5,200 years ago?
3. Would you like to buy a pair of shoes like Otzi's? Why? / Why not?
4. Imagine you are hiking on a mountain. Describe the clothes you are wearing while you are hiking.

### Write

- **What three questions would you like to ask Otzi? Write them in the spaces below and then ask them to one of your classmates.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_