



The Skills of the Huguenots - Weaving

Who were the Huguenots?

- Christians
- French Protestants
- Persecuted
- Emigrated
- Immigrated
- Refugees
- Settled



The Huguenots **TRANSFORMED** England

Silversmithing



Brewing

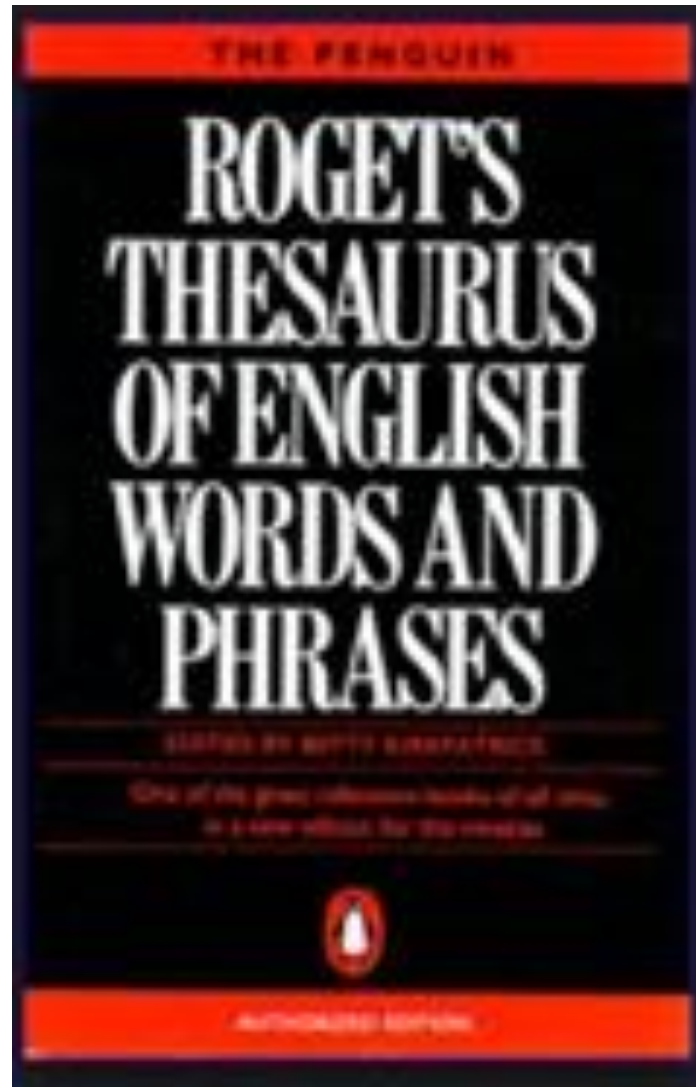


Cartography



A to Z of London, John Rocque, 1737

Literary



Skills of the Huguenots

Military – strategy and soldiers



Skills of the Huguenots

Science – maths and medicine



Skills of the Huguenots

Commerce – banking and finance



Skills of the Huguenots

Luxury goods – silk weavers, clockmakers, silversmiths



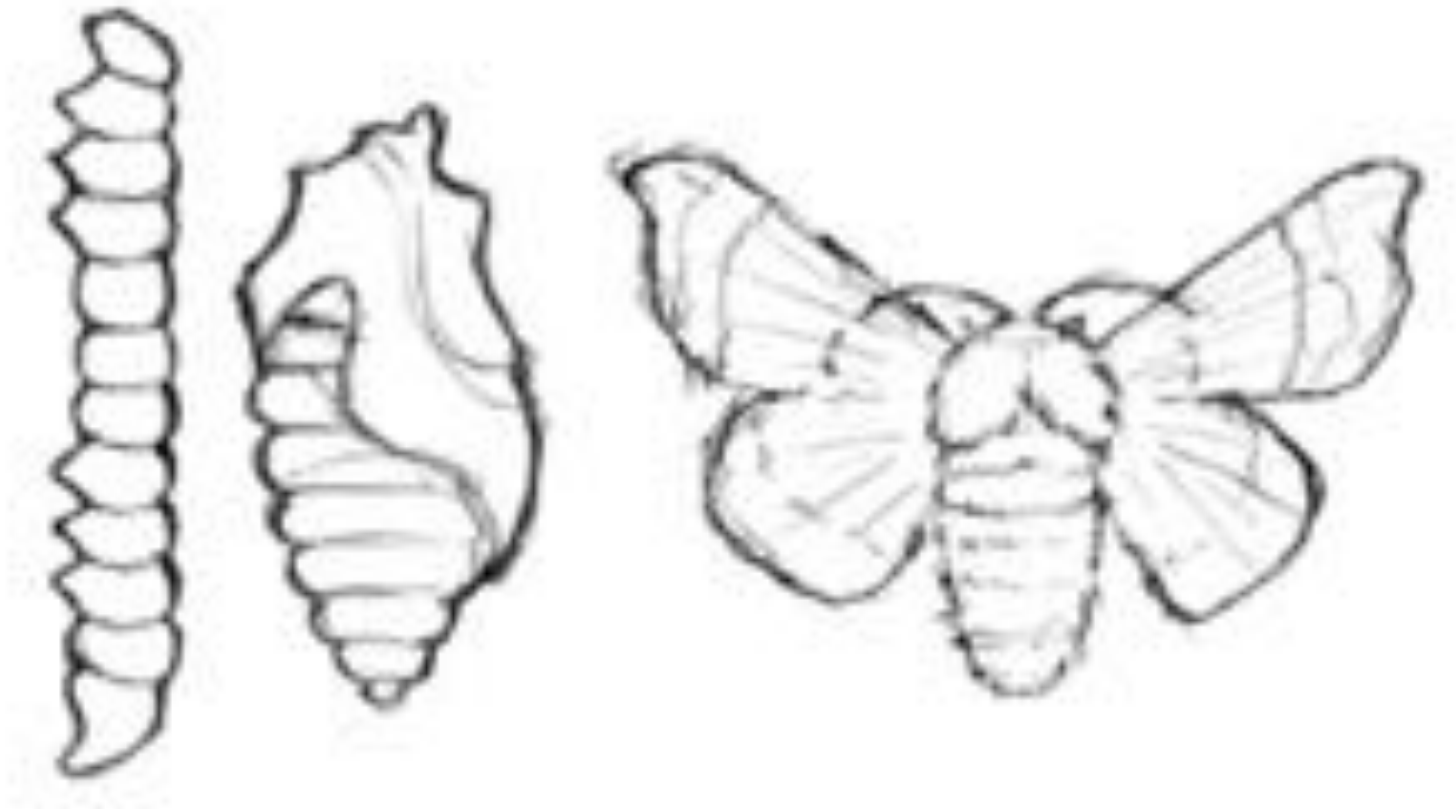


HUGUENOT WEAVERS

Mrs Fanshawe's Dress



Life Cycle of a Silk Worm



Silk Worms

- Silk thread is produced from the cocoons made by the larvae of the silk worm moth.
- The cocoon is made from a single continuous thread of up to 900m long.
- Cocoons were placed into boiling water making the cocoon easy to unravel.

How is silk made?



An adult female silkworm lays about 500 eggs, and then promptly dies.



After about 10 days, the eggs hatch and the larvae spend the next 20 days eating mulberry leaves.



The silkworm spends about four days producing silk and spinning its cocoon of a single long thread.



The cocoons are boiled to make it easier to unravel the silk and kill the pupae inside. If the silkworms were allowed to hatch, the long silk fibers would be cut.



The cocoons are unwound, and then the individual silk filaments must be reeled together to form a thread large enough for weaving.



The silk thread is cleaned, dyed and woven into fabric.

England - Spitalfields









Court dress, British, c. 1750, Silk, metallic thread, Costume Institute, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Value of Silk



Dress was an 'heirloom', left to daughter when the mother died

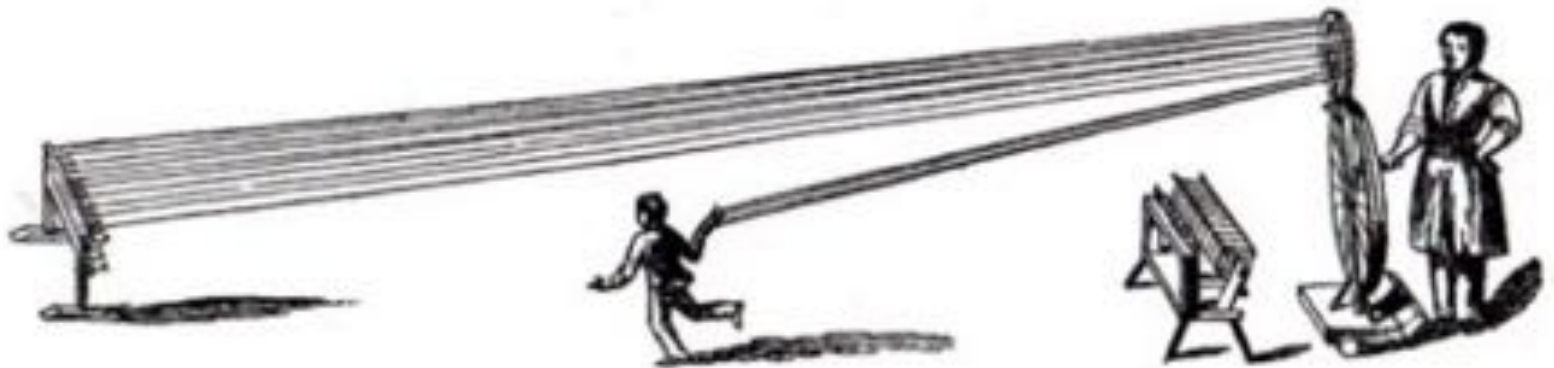
The silk for a dress took 4 months to weave, 1 week to sew the dress

Ladies only had a few dresses

Today we look at the style of clothes, but to people in the 17th Century, the quality and design of the fabric was more important

Silk Weaving Jobs

- Draw boy
- Throwsters (Image)
- Winders
- Dyers



Pattern Design



Probably the best known and striking of the jobs. They painted designs on graph paper for the loom mounters (draw loom) or the card cutters (jacquard looms)





Master Weavers

Master weavers

- controlled the weaving industry.
- sorted the silk supply,
- co-ordinating the various processes of production
- Owned property and equipment
- Negotiated sale prices



Portrait of Thomas Osborn Springfield, silk merchant, Bridwell Museum



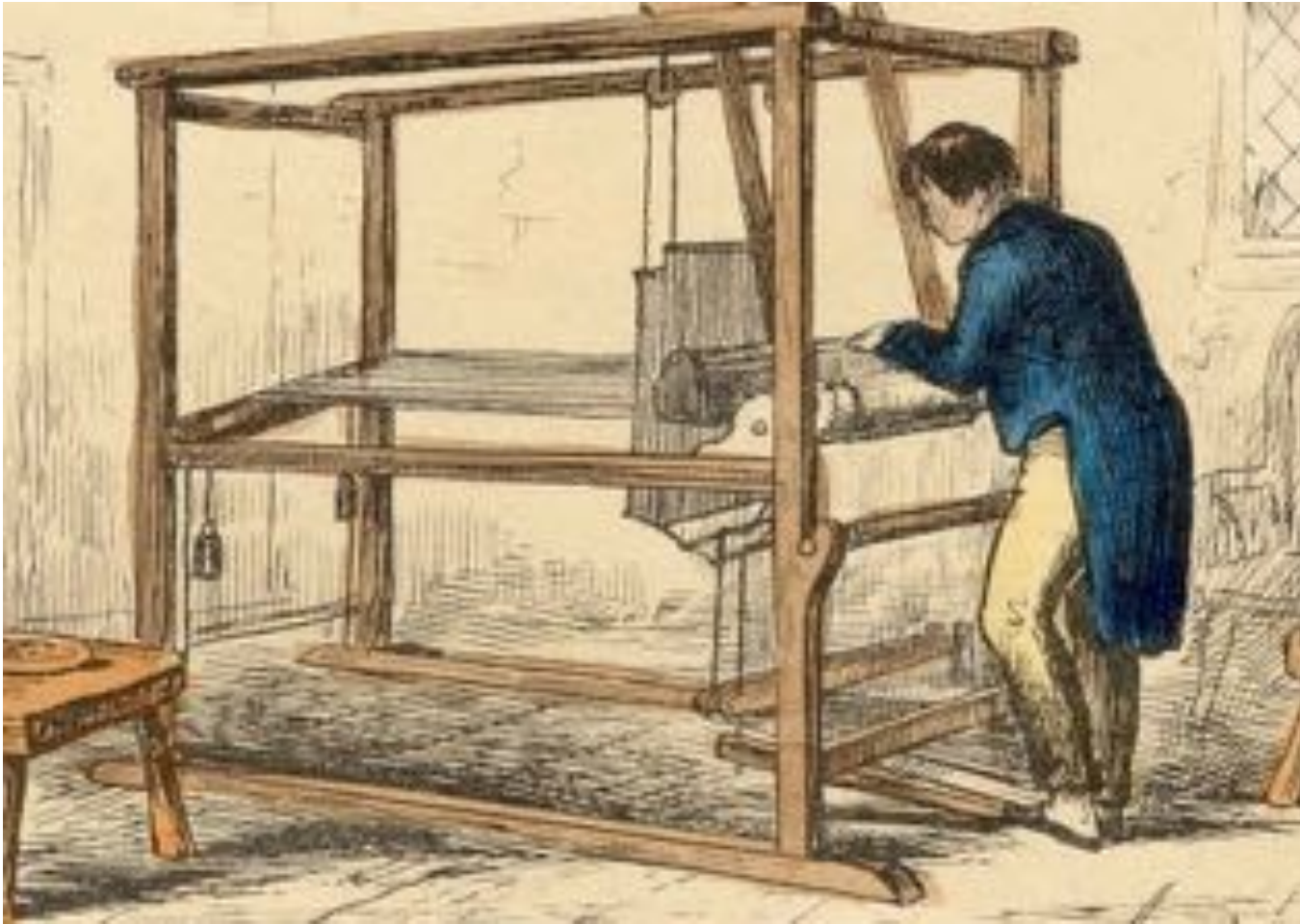
Journeyman Weaver

Worked

- a seven year apprentice
- Would rent spaces to work (and live) from Master Weaver
- If he wished to trade in his own right as a weaver he was required to pay an entry fee to become a Freeman of the City.
- Paid by the day



Journeymen Weavers



Anna Maria Garthwaite

Anna Maria Garthwaite, 1742,
designed the pattern for this
silk brocade dress.

It is in the Fashion Museum,
Bath



Anna Maria Garthwaite, 1742, Silk brocade
The Fashion Museum, Bath



Fabric investigation

- Have a look at some examples of Huguenot-style fabric and compare it to your school clothes
- Why did it take so long to make?
- When do you think people wore it?

Huguenot Weaving Designs



**Silk design by James Leman:
Designer and Master Weaver**

