19th Century Cosmetology

• History of Cosmetology
  – Egyptians
  – Chinese
  – Greeks
  – Romans
  – Middle Ages
  – Renaissance
  – Victorian Age
  – Barber Pole
• Definition: “The art and science of beautifying and improving the skin, nails, and hair, and the study of cosmetics and their application.”

• Greek word: *Kosmetikos* meaning “skilled in the use of cosmetics”
Tools Used at the Dawn of History

- Sharpened flints, oyster shells or bone for cutting
- Animal sinew or strips of hide were used to tie back hair or as adornment.
- Pigments made from berries, tree bark, minerals, insects, nuts, herbs, leaves and more were used for coloring hair, skin, nails and tattooing.
The Barber Pole

- Symbol of the barber surgeon
  - Has its roots in a medical procedure called bloodletting that was once thought to strengthen the immune system.

- What the pole represents
  - Pole – staff that patients held tightly to make the veins in their arms stand out during the procedure.
  - Bottom-end cap – the basin used to catch the blood.
  - Red and White stripes – the white bandages that stopped the bleeding were hung on the pole to dry.
    - As the wind blew these bandages would become twisted around the pole, forming a red-and-white pattern.

- Up until the 19th century, many barbers also performed minor surgeries and practiced dentistry.
  - White - bandages
  - Red – blood
  - Blue - veins
Egyptians

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  st to cultivate beauty and to use cosmetics as their personal beautification habits, religious ceremonies, and preparing the deceased for burial.
- Used minerals, insects and berries to create makeup.
- Used henna to stain their hair and nails.
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  st to infuse essential oils from leaves, bark and blossoms of plants for use as perfumes and purification purposes.
Queen Nefertiti
(1400 B.C.)

- Stained her nails by dipping her fingertips in henna
- Wore lavish makeup designs
- Used custom-blended essential oils as signature scents

Queen Cleopatra
(50 B.C.)

- Took the dedication to beauty to an entirely new level by building a personal cosmetics factory next to the Dead Sea.
Chinese

- **Shang Dynasty (1600 B.C.)**
  - Chinese aristocrats rubbed a tinted mixture of *gum arabic, gelatin, beeswax* and *egg whites* onto their nails to turn them crimson or ebony.

- **Chou Dynasty (1100 B.C.)**
  - Gold and silver were the *royal colors*
  - *Nail tinting* was so closely tied to *social status* that commoners caught wearing a royal nail color faced a *punishment of death.*
The Greeks (500 B.C.)

- Hair Styling became a highly developed art
- Perfumes and cosmetics were used in their religious rites, in grooming, and for medicinal purposes.
- Built elaborate baths and developed excellent methods of dressing the hair and caring for the skin and nails.
- Cosmetics used: white lead for the face, kohl on the eyes, and vermillion on their cheeks and lips.
The Romans

- Women made lavish use of **fragrances and cosmetics**
- **Facials**
  - Made of milk and bread or fine wine very popular
  - Also used facials made of corn, flour, and milk, or flour and fresh butter
  - Mixture of chalk and white lead was used as a facial cosmetic
- **Hair Color** – indicated class in society
  - Noblewomen tinted their hair **red**
  - Middleclass women colored their hair **blond**
  - Poor women colored their hair **black**
Middle Ages
Period of European history between classical antiquity and the Renaissance, beginning with the downfall of Rome in 476 A.D., and lasting until about 1450.

- Beauty culture is evidenced by tapestries, sculptures, and other artifacts from this period
- Used towering headdresses and intricate hairstyles
- Used cosmetics on skin and hair
- Women wore colored makeup on their cheeks and lips, but not on their eyes.
Renaissance
Period in history during which Western civilization made the transition from medieval to modern history.

- Paintings and written records tell us a great deal about the grooming practices of the time.
- One of the most unusual practices was **shaving the eyebrows and hairline to show a greater expanse of forehead.**
  - A bare brow was thought to give women a look of greater intelligence.
- Men and women wore **elaborate clothing.**
- Fragrances and cosmetics were used, although **highly colored preparations of lips, cheeks, and eyes were discouraged.**
Victorian Age
The reign of Queen Victoria of England between 1837 and 1901.

- Fashions in dress and personal grooming were greatly influenced by the social mores of this very restrictive period in history.
- Women used beauty masks made from honey, eggs, milk, oatmeal, fruits, vegetables, and other natural ingredients.
- Victorian women are said to have pinched their cheeks and bitten their lips to induce natural color rather than use cosmetics.
Have a nice day!