Name: _____

Sketching a Fashion Piece

Part 1: Planning and Sketching Your Piece

Instructions: Use the questions below to guide your thinking as you brainstorm and draw a sketch of your fashion piece.

- Think about which aspect of your family or identity you would like to express. What parts of your history or culture are important to you? What do you want others to know about?
- Is your piece rooted in an accurate understanding of history or culture? What sources might help you learn more about the people, events, or places you are seeking to represent?
- Think about the different kinds of materials available to you: textiles, metals, beads, natural objects such as wood, shells, or leather…. Choose the material that best represents that which you are expressing. Think about additional possible materials and structures that you could use to decorate your piece: sequins, prints, embroidery, applique, folds, buttons and other fasteners….
- What tone do you want to convey? Do you want it to be beautiful, shocking, thought-provoking?

Before you create your piece, answer the questions below:

1. What historical event is being remembered or cultural traits expressed?

2. What is the message of the piece?

3. How do the materials and symbols I use convey the intended message?

4. How does my fashion piece shape how observers view and understand the history? How they view the present?

Now, sketch your fashion piece!

Part 2: Artist Statement

Instructions: Once you have completed your fashion piece sketch, compose a one-page "artist statement" in which you write about your design experience. You should also be sure to address the questions listed above in Part 1. Be sure to outline the role that you, as an artist and historian, played in expressing history and/or culture.