Evaluation of costume in response to evaluation criteria

* **Design Brief**
With the group and individual design briefs combined, I felt that it contained adequate amount of background information in order to design and create a textile product. The design brief is clearly laid out, so the marker should have little to no problems locating which component is what. The final garment answers the design brief as it was functional to the proposed character, as well as being aesthetically pleasing.
* **Context and Historical Style**
The context is clearly said right after the design brief. This costume is to be made for a peasant character and the design ideas must take into account her lifestyle and the environment she is placed in.
Together with the design inspirations, I feel that this garment and the colouration used really reflects the clothing worn during the medieval times.
* **Constraints** **and** **Considerations**
The constraints and considerations was been put together in light of the group evaluation criteria. I feel that although there was a number of constraints and considerations, it really helped the design process as I was able to narrow down the design of the final garment we are familiar of. I felt that all of the constraints and considerations was answered as the final design is;
	+ Able to fit a variety of body types
	+ Aesthetically and functionally correct to the socioeconomic status and lifestyle of the persona
	+ Utilises time appropriate fabrics – using cotton (natural) rather than synthetic fabrics
	+ Functions in regards to the lifestyle of the persona
	+ Strong enough to last a multiple wears
	+ So simple but reflects the socioeconomic status of the persona
* **Sustainability** **Issues**
This is made to be a costume, it should have a fairly long life span, not just as the garment but the construction techniques used to create the garment. E.g. the use of bias tape to strengthen the arm holes to limit or prevent the wear and tear of the seams.
* **Human**-**centred** **Design** **Factors**
The modifications made to the garment, really helped me to create a “one size fits most” garment. Although this costume originated from a commercial pattern, it was still a relatively big make. Thus, by removing the gathering around the neckline and replacing it with a drawstring channel, I am left with extra fabric that can be manually gathered by the wearer of the costume.
* **Suggestions** **for** **Improvement**
 Extra care when sewing would have helped the garment to create an even cleaner finish. However, the untidiness of the stitches reflect the quality of sewing that would have been used during the medieval times, as machinery, such as sewing machine, would not have been available and the whole garment would have been hand sewn.

Evaluating

* Design
Although the garment lacks surface decorations and is really simple, I feel that it really answered the design brief. Based on the socioeconomic status and the lifestyle of the persona. It is clear that the simplicity of the garment is reflective of the constraints and considerations of this project.
* Planning
Based on visual design development, I feel that careful planning was made when designing and creating this garment. By constantly thinking about the design brief and the constraints of this project, I feel that I was able to manipulate a garment which is reflective of the proposed time era
* Modifications
Originating from a commercial pattern (Butterick B4377), several modifications was employed in order to create the garment to what we are familiar of now. These included:
	+ Merging two (2) of the back panels together to create one
	+ Removed the gathering along the neck/shoulder line
	+ Replaced the hook and eye closure, with drawstring closure
	+ Added slits along the two (2) front/side seams to allow for movement
	+ Significantly reduced the length of the cape, as well as altering the silhouette of the hem
	+ Removed the lining due to the socioeconomic status of the persona
	+ Increased the size of the hem all around to provide weight to the fabric.

By incorporating these modifications, I feel confident that I have answered the design brief.

* Production Processes
Although this garment was based on a commercial pattern, the instructions included was not followed. Instead I created the garment by thinking logically about the method I should follow to create this garment. By doing so, I made a lot of mistakes and has to unpick seams multiple times. Regardless, I am very happy about the outcome of the garment.
* Quality of Finished Product

I feel that the quality of the finished project was up to standards. After the colouration process, the garment put into a wash cycle three times and in the dryer once. This resulted the fabric to generate fluff on the exterior. Although the colouration of the garment is uneven, I feel that this gives the garment an authentic look as dyes would have been expensive during the medieval times.

Extra care should have been taken when using construction stitches that can be seen, especially the top stitching around the neck line in order to secure the channel for the drawstring.

Better planning could have been used before cutting and hemming the bottom hem of the garment. However, the technique used to repair the frayed edges gives the garments a rugged look, giving the impression the item was either a hand-me-down or have gone through a life span of wear and tear.