Name:

Sociology Hour

Date Tattoos

Answer the questions below on your own. After you finish, then walk around the classroom asking your neighbors their answers. Copy down, in brief, their opinion and have them sign your paper. You may only ask one person for each question. So, you will discuss these questions with eight others in class!

1. What images come to mind when you hear the word “tattoo”?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| YOUR OPINION | Neighbor | Neighbor |
|  | Sign: | Sign: |

1. What social or cultural associations do you have with tattoos?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| YOUR OPINION | Neighbor | Neighbor |
|  | Sign: | Sign: |

1. Are there stereotypes surrounding people who get tattoos? What are they?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| YOUR OPINION | Neighbor | Neighbor |
|  | Sign: | Sign: |

1. What kinds of images (pictures) do you think are typical (standard) for tattoos?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| YOUR OPINION | Neighbor | Neighbor |
|  | Sign: | Sign: |

**What are Tattoos? Where did they come from? How long have humans been using them?**

The word tattoo is said to has two major derivations- from the Polynesian word ‘ta’ which means striking something and the Tahitian word ‘tatau’ which means ‘to mark something’.  
  
The history of tattoo began over 5000 years ago and is as diverse as the people who wear them.  
  
Tattoos are created by inserting colored materials beneath the skins surface. The first tattoos probably were created by accident. Someone had a small wound, and rubbed it with a hand that was dirty with soot and ashes from the fire. Once the wound had healed, they saw that a mark stayed permanently.  
  
Despite the social sciences' growing fascination with tattooing, and the immense popularity of tattoos themselves, the practice has not left much of a historical record.