Perfume!

How is it made?
Where did it come from?
Jennifer Lopez Markets Perfume

• In 2001, Jennifer Lopez started a line of perfumes, carrying on a long tradition of celebrities using their fame to influence how other people looked and smelled.
Ziryab Starts Beauty School!

• “…(I)n the … eighth to ninth centuries AD… a famous singer and musician of Muslim Spain known as Ziryab (‘Blackbird’) opened ‘a genuine beauty institute where the arts of applying cosmetics, removing superfluous hair, using dentifrices, and dressing the hair were taught.’”

Ziryab, shown above, introduced seasonal fashions, chess, asparagus, and many other interesting things to the Muslim Spanish world.
How are these two types of perfume different?

- On the left, an ancient Egyptian woman offers a solid perfume ball to another.
- On the right, a Turkish perfume glass is shown.
- What is the primary difference between these two types of perfume?
Liquid Perfume!

• How could we get liquid perfume?
• Five techniques for obtaining scents:
  – First three result in solids:
    • Expression
    • Maceration
    • Enfluerage
  – Second two result in liquids:
    • Steam Distillation
    • Extraction
The oldest methods - Solid product

• **Expression:**
  – An oil is “cold-pressed” from its source
  – Oily skin of fruit is squeezed by hand, or in a press, then soaked up in sponges to use as a scent.
  – ex. Orange oil, lemon oil

• **Maceration:**
  – Flowers are immersed in warm fats, and mashed to release their oils.
  – Ex. Orange blossom, hyacinth

• **Enfleurage:**
  – Delicate flower petals are placed between two sheets of wax, or oily cloths, and their oils move into the wax. The flowers are removed and this process is repeated until the wax is saturated with scent.
  – Only used for the **most** delicate flowers
    • ex. Jasmine, tuberose

• **Products**
  – In ancient times, all of these would lead to a solid, waxy scent. One type of these is called a pomade.
The newer methods - Liquid products
Steam Distillation

- Steam Distillation
  - “We do not come across this industry (the distillation of rose-water) in the older civilisations, nor in contemporary ones, and this has led historians to believe that it was a genuine Muslim industry that originated during the Islamic era.”
  - al-Hassan, p. 141
Steam Distillation

• Distillation:
  – An alembic (seen to the left) was one of the pieces of equipment used for steam distillation.
  – A sturdy part of a plant (usually twigs, leaves, etc., but sometimes petals) were put into the bottom (labeled $a$) with water, and boiled
  – The steam and scented oils boil away from the plant matter, and go down the spout (labeled $c$).
  – The oil will float (generally) and the water will sink, and can be easily separated.