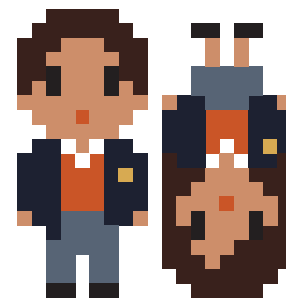


Name _____ Date _____

Opinion: Should Students Wear Uniforms?



A good **opinion essay** includes an opinion, or thesis, statement and strong, supportive reasons. Be sure to include all of these things as you respond to the prompt below.

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage below. Then, respond to the prompt on page 2.

School Uniforms: Are They Necessary?

What clothes do you wear to school? Some students around the world pick out their own outfits to wear each day to school. Other students have to wear a specific outfit based on what the school decides. There are different opinions about the impact of school uniforms.

What are school uniforms?

School uniforms are specific outfits and pieces of clothing required by many schools throughout the world. Students from elementary school all the way up to high school can be required to wear them. Certain schools use a strict dress code for the students.

Advantages

Some people believe uniforms will help students focus on their studies. They hope that by having a dress code, children won't have to worry about owning the latest designer clothes and looking as cool as their classmates.

With a dress code, students are more likely to have good attendance at school. They will not be worried about their clothes, so their attendance will improve. Students whose families do not have as much money will not be noticed. All students will look the same, so students will not have to worry about their clothes. School uniforms create a sense of school spirit. With this pride, students are excited to come to school to focus on their academics instead of fashion.

Disadvantages

Other people believe that students should not wear school uniforms. They believe that students should be free to express themselves with their outfits. School uniforms take away their freedom. School uniforms can be too expensive to purchase. Many families are unable to afford school uniforms. If a student has to wear a uniform to school, they also need regular clothes to wear when they are not in school. This costs a family even more money.

Some people say that uniforms will not remove bullying. They say that children will simply focus on other things as they bully. Also, if students wear school uniforms, they may be the focus of bullying from other schools.

In addition, it is hard to enforce, or make sure, that the students follow the dress code. What does the school do if a child shows up to school without the uniform? It is difficult to make sure that the students wear what they are told to wear.

