

THINGS

PREPARE TO READ

Discuss these questions.

1. What kinds of clothes do you wear for school?
2. Do you think school uniforms are a good idea or a bad idea?



WORD FOCUS

Match the words with their definitions.

A.

1. appearance ____
2. common ____
3. disagree ____
4. equal ____
5. rules ____

- a. not agree; have a different idea
- b. the same
- c. things you have to do; laws
- d. the way something or someone looks
- e. usual

B.

1. obey ____
2. tradition ____
3. turn into ____
4. unattractive ____
5. uncomfortable ____

- a. something people have done for many years
- b. become
- c. do what someone says you have to do
- d. not comfortable
- e. not pretty

SCAN

A. Guess if this is true or false. Circle *a* or *b*.

School children in Britain wear uniforms.

- a.* True *b.* False

B. Scan the passage quickly to check your answer.



School Uniforms

In many countries, like Britain and Japan, wearing school uniforms is still a **tradition**, but in others, like the United States, France, and Germany, uniforms are not so **common**.

- 5 Some people say that uniforms are important. Uniforms help students learn to **obey rules** and learn to study better. They make all the students **equal** in **appearance**. They also help students feel like part of the school.

Other people **disagree**. They say that uniforms are **uncomfortable** and **unattractive**. Most importantly, they say that when students wear uniforms, they can't express themselves with their clothes.

- 10 Some students think uniforms can be attractive. Some school students make small changes to their uniforms because they want to look more fashionable. They use their uniforms as a way to express themselves. Some students try to attend the school with the best uniform. This is a different way to look at uniforms. An old
15 tradition is **turning into** a new fashion.

WHICH MEANING?

What does **wear** mean in line 1?

- 1 (verb) put on clothes
- 2 (noun) clothes
- 3 (verb) to become old from use

CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION

Read the passage again and answer the questions. Circle your answers.

MAIN IDEA

1. What is the main topic of this passage?
- A. Schools in different countries
 - B. Different kinds of uniforms
 - C. Clothes for school
 - D. The best schools

DETAIL

2. In which country are uniforms not very common?
- A. Germany
 - B. France
 - C. The United States
 - D. All of the above
3. Why do some people say uniforms are important?
- A. They don't let students express themselves.
 - B. They help students study better.
 - C. They aren't common.
 - D. They look nicer than ordinary clothes.

4. Why don't some people like uniforms?

- A. They're too expensive.
- B. They're different at every school.
- C. They aren't used in all countries.
- D. They aren't attractive.

5. Why do some students make changes to their uniforms?

- A. They want to be fashionable.
- B. Their uniforms aren't comfortable.
- C. They want to attend a different school.
- D. Their uniforms are too small.

INFERENCE

6. People who like uniforms believe it's important to
- A. look attractive.
 - B. be fashionable.
 - C. attend the best school.
 - D. follow rules.