**TLEMCEN UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**Mrs. HAMZA CHERIF**

**READING COMPREHENSION**

**COURSE NUMBER THREE**

**LMD2**

**TEXT**

Individualism is a fundamental part of society in many countries.

Most people believe in the right to express their own opinion without fear of punishment. This value, however, is coming under fire in an unlikely place – the public school classroom. The issue is school uniforms. Should public school students be allowed to make individual decisions about clothing, or should all students be required to wear a uniform? School uniforms are the better choice for three reasons.

 First, wearing school uniforms would help make student’s lives simpler. They would no longer have to decide what to wear every morning, sometimes trying on outfit after outfit in an effect to choose. Uniforms would not only save time but also would eliminate the stress often associated with this chore.

 Second, school uniforms influence students to act responsibly in groups and as individuals. Uniforms give students the message that school is a special place for learning. In addition, uniforms create a feeling of unity among students. For example, when students do something as a group, such as attend meetings in the auditorium or eat lunch in the cafeteria, the fact that they all wear the same uniform gives them a sense of community. Even more important, statistics show the positive effects that school uniforms have on violence and truancy. According to a recent survey in a large school district in Florida, incidents of school violence dropped by 50 per cent, attendance and test scores improved, and student suspensions declined approximately 30 per cent after school uniforms were introduced.

 Finally, school uniforms would help make all the students feel equal. Students’ standards of living differ greatly from family to family, and some people are well-off while others are not. People sometimes forget that school is a place to get an education, not to promote a “fashion show.” Implementing mandatory school uniforms would make all the students look the same regardless of their financial status. School uniforms would promote pride and help to raise the self-esteem of students who cannot afford to wear expensive clothing.

 Opponents of mandatory uniforms say that students who wear school uniforms cannot express their individuality. This point has some merit on the surface. However, as stated previously, school is a place to learn, not to flaunt wealth and fashion. Society must decide if individual expression through clothing is more valuable than improved educational performance. It is important to remember that school uniforms would be worn only during school hours. Students can express their individuality in the way that they dress outside of the classroom.

 In conclusion, there are many well-documented benefits of implementing mandatory school uniforms for students. Studies show that students learn better and act more responsibly when they wear uniforms. Public schools should require uniforms in order to benefit both the students and society as a whole.

**Answer the following questions:**

*Part one:*

1. Provide an appropriate title for the text.

…………………………………………………………….

1. What is the writer opinion about the topic?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Why do you think that the writer tends to one side?

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1. How is the writer defending his argument? What arguments does the writer use to defend his opinion?

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1. Does the writer keep his opinion or not? Justify your answer.

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*Part two:*

 1. Give the synonym of the following words from the text:

Absence=…………………..

Essential=……………………

Display=………………………

Applying=……………………..

Obligatory=……………………

Comfortable=…………………

2. Use the following words in sentences:

District, Truancy, Regardless, Self-esteem, and Flaunt.

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3. Fill in the gaps using your words or sentences in the following paragraph. (This passage is taken from paragraph 4)

Finally, …………………would help make all the students feel………….. .Students’ ……………………greatly from family to family, and some people are well-off while others are not. People sometimes forget that school is a place to get an……………., not to……………. a “fashion show.” Implementing mandatory school uniforms would make all the students ……………….regardless of their financial………….. .School uniforms would promote ……….and…………. to raise the self-esteem of students who cannot…………….. to wear expensive clothing.

*Part three:*

1. What is the hook of the first paragraph?

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. Identify the thesis statement.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. What are the reasons for requiring school uniforms?
2. Second paragraph:………………………………………….

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1. Third paragraph:………………………………………….

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1. Fourth paragraph:………………………………………….

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1. In paragraph four, what supporting information does the writer give to show that uniforms make students equal? (Use your own words and style).

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1. Which paragraph presents a counterargument (opposite ), and what is the counterargument ?

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1. The writer gives a refutation of the counterargument by showing that it is invalid. What is the writer’s refutation?

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1. Rewrite the fourth paragraph using another counterargument, and give your own refutation.

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1. Write the sentence from the concluding paragraph that restates the thesis.

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1. What is the writer’s opinion about this issue? (Use your own words and style).

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*Part four:*

1. Summarize the essay in a form of an argumentative paragraph.

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1. Write an **argumentative essay** about School uniforms using other arguments with two paragraphs in the main body (one for counter arguments and the second one the encounter argument).

Using other arguments, and another encounter argument with a refutation.

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 GOOD LUCK.