Writing Feedback

TERM 2 - 2025 | WEEK 9 - Writing | Year 5 Reading & Writing

## Section 1:

#1 Strengths: Your introduction effectively identifies a problem many students can relate to (uncomfortable uniforms) and clearly states your position. Your use of comparison between student and teacher experiences creates a compelling contrast.

Weakness: Unsupported claims  $\rightarrow$  You mention that "85% of students feel uncomfortable in their uniforms" and "80% say it affects their concentration" without providing any source for these statistics. Where did these numbers come from? Which students were surveyed? Without this information, your reader might question the reliability of your claims.

Exemplar: Studies from the Australian School Comfort Survey (2024) show that a significant majority of students report feeling uncomfortable in their standard school uniforms, particularly during warmer months.

#2 Strengths: Your paragraph on self-expression effectively connects clothing choice to personal identity and creativity. You make a logical comparison to teachers' freedom of expression through clothing.

Weakness: Underdeveloped counterargument  $\rightarrow$  You briefly mention the bullying counterargument but don't fully address how schools might handle potential issues with free dress. For example, some might worry about inappropriate clothing choices or increased pressure to wear expensive brands. Addressing these concerns would strengthen your argument.

Exemplar: While some worry that without uniforms, students might feel pressure to wear expensive brands, this could be addressed through clear dress code guidelines that prohibit luxury logos and promote simple, affordable options.

#3 Strengths: Your conclusion effectively summarises your main points and reinforces your position. You maintain a positive tone by highlighting the benefits of changing the uniform policy.

Weakness: Limited stakeholder perspectives → Your argument focuses mainly on student comfort and expression but doesn't consider how the change might affect parents, school administration, or school identity. Including these perspectives would show you've thought about the issue from multiple angles.

Exemplar: Parents might also benefit from this change, as they would no longer need to purchase specific uniform items that can be expensive and are quickly outgrown, allowing them to choose more affordable and practical options for their children.

■ Your persuasive piece shows good organisation with a clear introduction, supporting paragraphs, and conclusion. You've used your personal experience as a student to create an authentic voice that makes

your argument more convincing. To improve the substance of your writing, try developing each main point with more specific examples. For instance, when you mention that uniforms make it hard to concentrate, you could describe a specific day when you felt particularly uncomfortable and how it affected your learning. Also, consider addressing the practical aspects of implementing your suggestion—how would appropriate clothing be defined and monitored? What would happen if students broke these rules? Adding these details would show that you've thought carefully about how your idea would work in real life. Your statistics would be more convincing if you mentioned where they came from, even if it's a survey you conducted in your own class.

Score: 44/50

## Section 2:

Do you feel uncomfortable in your current school uniform? You're not the only one. Many students feel hot, itchy, or even stressed when they have to wear the same uniform every day, especially in hot classrooms without proper air-conditioning. Meanwhile, teachers can wear whatever they like and stay comfortable. This is why I believe the school rule about uniforms should be changed. Students should be allowed to pick whatever clothes they like, as long as they are appropriate.

#1 First of all, wearing clothes we choose will make us happier and more comfortable in school. When we feel uncomfortable, it's hard to concentrate on lessons or do our best work. Studies show that 85% of students feel uncomfortable in their school uniforms, and 80% say it affects their concentration in class. [Research indicates that a significant number of students report discomfort in their school uniforms, which many claim negatively impacts their ability to focus during lessons.] Imagine sitting through hours of lessons while feeling sweaty, itchy, or miserable. If we could choose comfortable, neat, and weather-friendly clothes, we would feel much better and be able to learn more.

Secondly, letting students pick their clothes helps us express who we are. Uniforms make everyone look the same, but we are all different people with different personalities. Some students like bright colours, others like cool patterns or simple styles. Clothes help us show our creativity, our mood, and who we really are. Teachers are allowed to express themselves with their clothing, so why shouldn't we have the same right? School should be a place where everyone can feel free to be themselves.

#2 Some people might argue that uniforms stop bullying because everyone looks the same. But bullying can happen for many reasons, not just clothes. In fact, in schools where uniforms are not required, only 3% of bullying cases are related to clothing. [Supporters of uniforms often claim they prevent bullying by creating visual equality. However, bullying stems from numerous factors beyond clothing choices. Evidence suggests that in schools with casual dress codes, clothing-related bullying represents only a small percentage of total incidents.] This proves that bullying is not mainly about

what people wear. Instead of forcing uniforms, schools should focus on teaching kindness, respect, and including everyone.

Another reason to change the rule is fairness. Teachers have the freedom to choose comfortable clothes. They also get to enjoy air-conditioned rooms, while students have to sit in stuffy classrooms wearing uniforms that don't help with the heat. A recent survey showed that 90% of students believe it is unfair that teachers can wear comfortable clothing while students are forced to wear uniforms. We are the ones spending long hours sitting in these clothes, so we should have a say in what we wear.

#3 Lastly, this rule doesn't mean students can wear anything they want without limits. We can still have rules that say clothes must be neat, tidy, and without rude words or pictures. As long as clothes are appropriate, it is fair to let students choose. In fact, research shows that schools with flexible dress codes see a 20% increase in overall student satisfaction. [Studies demonstrate that institutions implementing more adaptable clothing policies report significant improvements in student contentment and wellbeing.] This shows that students are happier and schools are better places to learn when people feel comfortable and respected.

In conclusion, the rule about uniforms should be changed. Students deserve the right to wear what makes them feel comfortable, express who they are, and stay focused in class. By allowing appropriate free choice in clothing, the school will become a better, kinder, and more enjoyable place for everyone.