

START IT!

▶ Uniforms are everywhere
5.1

We see uniforms every day. We find them in all different countries. And there are so many different types. But why do people wear uniforms? Uniforms show what people do and what group they belong to. Many sports teams wear uniforms, like these players. And a lot of jobs have uniforms, too. What does this person do? You're right; she flies planes; she's a pilot. Uniforms are also useful and can help you stay safe. Firefighters' suits keep them safe from fires and smoke. Doctors and nurses wear special uniforms called 'scrubs'. These uniforms keep them clean and their patients healthy. Even some sports uniforms help players stay safe. In many countries, students wear school uniforms. The first school uniforms come from the United Kingdom. The uniforms at 'the Bluecoat School' in Horsham, England, are almost 500 years old. Today, the students still wear the same blue coats and yellow socks. In fact, blue is a very popular colour for school uniforms today. With a uniform, students don't have to worry about their clothes. It's easy to get dressed in the mornings. And some uniforms, like the blue coats, are free! But students can't wear their favourite clothes. Other schools don't have uniforms. Students can wear popular fashion. They can show who they are. But popular fashion can be very expensive. And it can take a long time to decide on clothes to wear every day. Some students don't mind wearing uniforms. Other students don't like them. But one thing is sure: when you wear a uniform, you are part of a group. Is that good or bad? Do you wear a school uniform? If so, what do you think of it?

LANGUAGE IN ACTION 1

▶ What's your style?
5.2

Hello. Today, I'm asking about clothes. What do you wear to school? I wear this to school almost every day: jeans and a shirt. Jeans and T-shirts are my favourite type of clothing. But, I'm not wearing a T-shirt right now. Oh, wait! Yes, I am! So, this is my school outfit: jeans and a shirt over a T-shirt. Casual. But my friend, Hiro, goes to a school in Japan. Everyone wears a uniform at his school. You can see Hiro isn't wearing jeans, he's wearing grey trousers and a blue jacket, but the girls are wearing skirts. They aren't wearing trousers. Now, it's your turn. What do you wear to school? Or what are you wearing at the moment? Tell me in the comments!

Language in action

Present continuous

Which language does the vlogger use? We use the present continuous to talk about things happening now. We use *am, are, is* plus verb with *-ing* to form the present continuous.

Today, I'm asking about clothes.
He's wearing grey trousers, but the girls are wearing skirts.

We use the negative form of the verb *to be* to form negative sentences.

But I'm not wearing a T-shirt right now.
You can see Hiro isn't wearing jeans.
They aren't wearing trousers.

Notice the order of words in questions.

Am I wearing a T-shirt?

Is he wearing jeans today?

What are you wearing at the moment?

Use it!

Say what they are wearing, and what colour it is.

He's wearing a grey hat.

He's wearing a blue hoodie.

Now you try.

He's wearing a blue T-shirt.

He's wearing grey shorts.

She's wearing a purple scarf.

She's wearing black boots.

LANGUAGE IN ACTION 2

5.3 My style tips

Hi there! Today, I'm talking about style. Here are three tips. Tip one: wear clothes you like. What do you usually wear? Jeans and hoodies? Dresses and boots? For instance, I don't like wearing uncomfortable dresses. I love wearing jeans. Tip two: wear colours that look good on you. I don't look good in dark colours, so I usually wear bright colours. This is my friend Cara. She isn't wearing bright colours! She wears dark colours every day! And tip three: don't forget accessories! Wear something special like my friend Jaya. What's she wearing now? She's wearing a hat! She always wears a hat. Watches, hats and scarves are all great accessories. Get one in your favourite style! Like my watch. Oops! It's time to go! Bye!

Language in action

Present simple and present continuous

Which language does the vlogger use? We use the present simple to talk about facts, habits and routines.

I usually wear bright colours.
I don't like wearing uncomfortable dresses.
What do you usually wear?

We use adverbs of frequency like *usually* with the present simple. We use the present continuous to talk about things happening now or actions in progress.

Today, I'm talking about style.
She isn't wearing bright colours.
What's she wearing now?

We use time expressions like *today* or *now* with the present continuous.

Use it!

Use *wear* plus the time expression indicated.
John never wears a scarf.

Now you try.
John always wears flip-flops on Thursday and Friday.
John often wears shorts at the weekend.
He wears a hat every day.

GLOBETROTTERS

5.5 Culture and fashion

Many people around the world wear traditional clothes. These fashions don't change much and are very important to them. Do you know the 'blue people'? These people, the Tuareg, live in the Sahara in Africa. This man is wearing a blue turban and a piece of cloth over his face. The Tuareg colour their clothes blue with the indigo plant. And this colour can make their skin blue. When the sun is shining, you probably like wearing flip-flops, shorts, a T-shirt, a cap and sunglasses. It can be really hot in dark jeans or joggers and a hoodie. So why do many Tuareg wear long, dark clothes in the hot desert? They keep them safe from the sun, the wind and the sand. Some people need to stay warm. The Sami live in the north of Europe. There is a lot of snow here, so they don't wear trainers. They wear warm boots and gloves. They make colourful bags and purses and wallets. This man is wearing a traditional 'gákti': a long shirt or jacket with a belt. The Sami love using bright colours. Blue is for water, red is for fire and yellow is for the sun. The colours of their flag! The Maasai live in the east of Africa. They don't need make up. They put on beads! They make necklaces, bracelets and rings with colourful beads. There is no room for a watch on this woman's arm. There are special necklaces for weddings and other celebrations. Men also love wearing these beads, for example headbands and earrings. Red is a very important colour for the Maasai. It shows that they are strong and not afraid. What traditional clothes does your country have? Do you ever wear them?