

EXHIBIT 5.7. Argument Think-Aloud

Note: Teacher think-aloud comments appear in italics.

Many middle schools and high schools have adopted school uniform policies in recent years. (*I wonder if our school has ever considered uniforms?*) Some proponents claim uniforms can increase school unity and promote a focus on academics rather than fashion. (*Yes, I've heard this argument before when I worked at a middle school.*) However, opponents of school uniform policies argue that uniforms inhibit individuality and prevent students from expressing themselves at an age when self-expression is very important. (*This makes sense to me. But I also wonder if students can express themselves in other ways?*) They also argue that many families may not be able to afford uniforms, which can be costly. Some schools have tried to compromise by not requiring students to purchase a specific uniform, but instead requiring they wear certain colors of clothing such as blue or khaki on the bottom and white on top. (*This is an interesting compromise—I wonder what students think of this?*)