

Stage 2 Cloze Exercise Sample

What is Cloze Procedure?

Cloze procedure is a technique in which words are deleted from a passage according to a word-count formula or various other criteria. The passage is presented to students, who insert words as they read to complete and construct meaning from the text. This procedure can be used as a diagnostic reading assessment technique.

What is its purpose?

It is used:

- to identify students' knowledge and understanding of the reading process
- to determine which cueing systems readers effectively employ to construct meaning from print
- to assess the extent of students' vocabularies and knowledge of a subject
- to encourage students to monitor for meaning while reading
- to encourage students to think critically and analytically about text and content

(<http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/de/pd/instr/strats/cloze/index.html>)

Instructions:

Consider the passage below and insert the most appropriate word into the blank space.

Taken from The Globe and Mail, Nov 2, 2011, Darryl Leniuk

We were at the upper acropolis of ____ Mayan city of Yaxchilan, a sprawling complex ____ vine-draped ceiba trees, limestone staircases and towering _____ that was abandoned to the Lacandon Jungle _____ than 1,200 years ago. The journey here _____ navigating winding roads for hours to the _____ with Guatemala, hiring a boatman to take _____ 40 minutes more down the Usumacinta River ____ hiking in. We were alone except for ____ watchmen at the entrance, two kilometres back, ____ whatever was howling. Confused, I tried to _____ of the sound a jaguar might make, ____ bent down to pick up a stick.

Actual Passage

We were at the upper acropolis of the Mayan city of Yaxchilan, a sprawling complex of vine-draped ceiba trees, limestone staircases and towering edifices that was abandoned to the Lacandon Jungle more than 1,200 years ago. The journey here involved navigating winding roads for hours to the border with Guatemala, hiring a boatman to take us 40 minutes more down the Usumacinta River and hiking in. We were alone except for two watchmen at the entrance, two kilometres back, and whatever was howling. Confused, I tried to think of the sound a jaguar might make, then bent down to pick up a stick.