

Cloze Procedure

Useful for KS2 pupils and above, however, adaptations can be made for younger children.

It can

- Reinforce English language structures
- Reinforce reading skills
- Reinforce metalinguistic skills

Strategy steps:

Develop a cloze passage omitting every 7th (or 8th or 10th) word, for

example:

1. Have the students read the entire passage before they start filling in the blanks.
2. When they are done, students compare their work with a projection of the complete story and circle any words that are incorrect.
3. Conference with each student regarding incorrect responses noting if he/she used a word in the same syntactic class (substituting a noun for a noun, a verb for a verb, etc.) and whether or not the meaning was similar to the correct response.
4. Provide individual instruction specific to the student's responses.

For younger children:

Develop a cloze passage (MAZE) omitting a limited selection of words, for example, nouns or the main verb of the sentence, giving options for the responses. For example:

One day Mariah made pudding. First, she opened the _____ (box, stir) of pudding mix. She poured the mix into a _____ (bake, bowl). Then she took a carton of _____ (milk, drink) out of the refrigerator. She _____ (stirred, poured) the milk into a measuring cup. Then she poured the _____ (cook, milk) into a bowl of pudding mix. She _____ (stirred, bowl) the pudding mix and the milk. Then she put the pudding into the refrigerator.

1. Have the students read the entire passage before they start filling in the blanks.
2. Guide the children through each sentence discussing the responses and have them determine which one is correct. They do not write the correct response at this time.
3. Children write the correct responses in the blanks independently.
4. As the children become familiar with the procedure on subsequent passages, give them more responsibility for working independently.
5. When they are working more independently, follow steps 3, 4, and 5 as described for older students.

© 2021 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
[Privacy Statement](#)