

Self-Selected Reading Progress Monitoring with Cloze for Conventional Students

We need to ensure that the books a transitional or conventional reader is reading in the self-selected reading block are **at or below** their reading comprehension level. We also check their comprehension when moving them to more complex readers.

To check comprehension, we create a Cloze task from a book the student has just read. This should be done at most once a week - and the main need to assess it is when you are considering moving students up a level.

To check comprehension using Cloze, type the text from the book into a website that creates Cloze tasks. There are a couple of options -

<http://l.georges.online.fr/tools/cloze.html> or <http://www.analyzemywriting.com/>

Rules for creating the Cloze passage from Professor Karen Erickson, Centre for Literacy and Disability Studies:

- Leave the first 2 sentences exactly as they are in the original text
- Delete approximately every 5th word
- Provide a choice of 3 words
 - One that's correct
 - One that's the same part of speech (e.g., verb, adjective)
 - One that's the same length
- Aim for 15 or more blanks (more confidence in your findings)
- Print the Cloze task off and put it into the book to use and for others to use in the future.

To determine comprehension, use the following guidelines:

- If a student achieves 65 – 70% correct with an unfamiliar book, they have read it with sufficient comprehension for it to be at or below their reading comprehension level.
- If a student achieves 80 – 85% correct with an familiar book, they have read it with sufficient comprehension for it to be at or below their reading comprehension level.
- If they achieve a score below these levels then the text is too difficult for them

Example Cloze task

Meet Anna by Barbara Jean Hicks from Disney Learning

Anna is a princess. She has red hair and rosy cheeks.
She likes bright colours ____ lots of noise.
Options for the gap: any it and
Anna ____ a sister.
Options for the gap: likes has her
Her name __ Elsa.
Options for the gap: is a in
Elsa is Anna's ____ sister.

Options for the gap:big little the
The sisters live __ a royal castle.
Options for the gap:is out in
The _____ is in Arendelle.
Options for the gap:house castle carpet
It is very old and very ____.
Options for the gap:big small ice
Anna has always lived __ the kingdom of Arendelle.
Options for the gap:is in out
When she was a little _____, she played outside with her sister.
Options for the gap: girl boy hair
Elsa had magic _____.
Options for the gap: _____ spells powers stale
She could make ice ____ snow!
Options for the gap: _____ any the and
She made a _____ called Olaf.
Options for the gap: _____ dog snowman sparrow
Anna and Olaf had lots of fun _____.
Options for the gap: _____ tomorrow together apart
Olaf was made of ____ snow, but Anna could give him a warm hug.
Options for the gap: _____ cold hot cozy
_____ always wanted to play with Elsa.
Options for the gap: _____ Elsa Ants Anna
But one day, Elsa stopped wanting to play ____ Anna.
Options for the gap: _____ with when along
Elsa was scared __ playing with Anna.
Options for the gap: _____ at of with
She was worried that her magic _____ would hurt Anna.
Options for the gap: _____ talent place powers
So _____ hid herself away.
Options for the gap: _____ Elsa else Anna
The sisters spent a lot of ____ apart.
Options for the gap: _____ mime time minutes
They didn't speak __ each other.

Options for the gap the is to
They became ____ different.
Options for the gap totally once very
Anna liked to ____ and play games.
Options for the gap jump joke sulk
She ____ wanted to play with Elsa.
Options for the gap still always will
But Elsa was always ____ scared.
Options for the gap too top so
Anna learned to ____ fun on her own.
Options for the gap help be have
She rode her pony every ____.
Options for the gap minute day say
Even the rain would ____ stop Anna from playing outside!
Options for the gap not never got
Now Anna has grown ____.
Options for the gap to up down
But she still ____ to be outside.
Options for the gap loves likes grows
She loves to climb up high and feel the wind in her ____.
Options for the gap teeth give hair
Elsa has grown up ____.
Options for the gap too well with
And she is not ____ of her magic anymore.
Options for the gap crazy scared thread
She no longer stays away ____ her little sister.
Options for the gap from with face
Anna ____ Elsa do things differently.
Options for the gap and ant with
But they can still have ____ together.
Options for the gap life fun sun
Anna is so ____ to have a sister like Elsa.
Options for the gap happylazy laugh