



**DIPUTACION
GENERAL
DE ARAGON**

Departamento de Educación
y Ciencia

Escuela Oficial de Idiomas nº 2
de Zaragoza

CURSO	ACTIVIDAD	SOPORTE	Nº FICHA
3º INGLÉS	 COMPRESIÓN ESCRITA		19

AULA DE AUTOAPRENDIZAJE

CLOZE TEST

If you wish some advice about how to do a cloze test, please turn the page and read the tips. Be careful not to read the answers to the exercise!

Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space.

Britain's most inventive police force has recently introduced a new secret weapon – a fleet of cardboard cut-out patrol cars. The imitation cars, (1) _____ will be cunningly positioned in lay-bys or on bridges, are designed (2) _____ frighten speeding motorists into slowing (3) _____. At a cost of 375 pounds, (4) _____ to 28,000 pounds for the real thing, each car consists (5) _____ a thin rainproof sandwich of vinyl-covered card, complete (6) _____ all the authentic markings of a real petrol car – including the fluorescent orange stripe along each side. The Northumberland police force are well-prepared to cope (7) _____ a barrage of sarcastic comments from the public. They plan to remind people (8) _____ the highly successful fake police officers which have been used now for a (9) _____ of years in the area. These (10) _____ reduced crime and (11) _____ money.

“Initially this project may provoke a humorous response”, said Chief Superintendent Bob Bensley. “But we are very optimistic that the cars (12) _____ turn out to be a serious and low-cost resource in our campaign (13) _____ cut speed and reduce casualties. Motorists' organizations have welcomed the police initiative, though (14) _____ spokesman for the RAC said, “At the (15) _____ of the day, you can't beat a real police car with a real policeman (16) _____ the wheel”. Of course the police realize (17) _____ and in fact the imitation cars will not be (18) _____ harmless as they might seem. “There will always be real police officers near each fake”, said Mr Bensley. “They will be equipped (19) _____ hand-held detection devices, so that if drivers speed up again, they (20) _____ be caught”.

RAC: Royal Automobile Club

TIPS ON HOW TO COMPLETE CLOZE TESTS

- First, slowly read all the text **without** filling any of the gaps. Read it two or three times until you have a clear understanding of what the text is about.
- Then **only** complete the gaps you are absolutely sure of.
- Next try and find out what the missing words in the remaining gaps are. See which **part of speech** may fit in each gap (article?, pronoun?, noun?, adverb?, adjective?, preposition?, conjunction?, verb?) and pay special attention to the **grammar** around the words in each gap.

Many of the gaps may include the following:

- *preposition* following a noun, adjective or verb. (Example: good *at* languages)
 - *prepositional phrase*. (Example: in spite *of*)
 - *adverb*. (Example: He moved to Zaragoza two years *ago*)
 - *connector*. (Example: First, he arrives; *then* he sits down; finally, he leaves.)
 - *conjunction*. (Example: *Although* he is five, he can speak five languages.)
 - *auxiliary verb*. (Example: He *has* won 2 matches)
 - an *article* or some other kind of determiner. (Example: I have *no* time)
 - a *relative*. (Example: Juan, *who* I met two years ago, is my best friend)
 - a *pronoun*, either subject or object. (Example: *it* is difficult to know)
 - is there a *comparative* or *superlative* involved? (Example: she's taller *than* me)
- Some sentences may seem to be complete and contain gaps that appear to be unnecessary. If you find gaps like this, you will probably need the following:
 - *an adverb*. (Example: He is *always* late)
 - *a modal verb*. (Example: They *can* swim very well)
 - a word to change the *emphasis* of the sentence: She's good *enough* to be queen
The problems are *too* difficult
- A few gaps may demand a **vocabulary item** consistent with the topic of the text; or a word which is part of an idiomatic expression (example: *Good heavens!*); or a word which collocates with another one (example: *do* a job); or a word which is part of a phrasal verb (example: I was *held up* by traffic).
 - If after putting into practice the techniques above you still have some gaps left, **make a wild guess** (*adivínalo a ojo*). Some teachers may award you a full mark or half a mark if they understand that your suggested word shows a good command of English grammar and vocabulary although the word you wrote in the gap is not the correct one or doesn't fully fit in the overall meaning of the text.
 - **Never** leave a gap blank and **never** fill in a gap with a word you know for sure is wrong.

KEY

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|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. which | 8. about/of | 15. end |
| 2. to | 9. number | 16. behind/at |
| 3. down | 10. have | 17. this/that |
| 4. compared | 11. saved | 18. as |
| 5. of | 12. will | 19. with |
| 6. with | 13. to | 20. will |
| 7. with | 14. a | |

For further practice in cloze tests you can consult in the library