



**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		20

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.

According to biologists in the south of France, hundreds of tiny turtles bought as children's pets are turning into monsters. Flushed down toilets or (1) _____ lakes, the little green terrapins, only a few centimetres (2) _____, are growing into creatures weighing up (3) _____ five kilos and over 30 cm in length. They are appearing in waters all (4) _____ the South of France, (5) _____ fish and threatening swimmers. One holidaymaker has already (6) _____ bitten while bathing in a lake near Cannes. The situation is (7) _____ bad that the lake (8) _____ supplies the Riviera with its drinking water may (9) _____ to be emptied and cleared of the turtles. Biologists say the hot climate and lack (10) _____ natural enemies are the main reasons the turtles (11) _____ mutating.

A biologist at Marineland, a tourist attraction at Antibes, said, "They are ferocious, very aggressive and dangerous. An adult turtle (12) _____ chop off a child's foot (13) _____ one bite. Now the real problem is (14) _____ they are beginning to breed". Sales of turtles in France are estimated to be (15) _____ 200,000 and 300,000 (16) _____ year. Most are miniature green terrapins imported (17) _____ Florida, but some shops have (18) _____ selling a Canadian version known (19) _____ the Serpentine turtle. In adult form, it can (20) _____ as much as 75 lbs.

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. into | 7. so | 14. that |
| 2. long | 8. which/that | 15. between |
| 3. to | 9. have/need | 16. a/per |
| 4. over | 10. of | 17. from |
| 5. eating/attacking/
destroying | 11. are | 18. been/begun/started |
| 6. been | 12. can | 19. as |
| | 13. with | 20. weigh |

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