

ATWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CLOZE Assessment Testing Procedures
Grades 4th - 6th
Spring, 2000

1. Get Ready: Make copies of the assessment for each student.
2. Set the Purpose: Make sure that students understand why they are taking the assessment. Although this is important, there is no grade. The purpose of the assessment is to assist teachers in determining the student's reading level. Students will not see the assessment after it is completed and scored. Teachers do not have to tell students they must have the author's exact word. Not telling them will lower their anxiety. (NOTE: Each CLOZE assessment has been evaluated for appropriate readability for each grade level. Hence, if a student scores a standard score of 2, he/she is reading successfully at this grade level. You may wish to use additional assessments for some students.)
3. Practice: Before the actual assessment date, have students do the practice CLOZE exercises. Point out that the test also has blanks and *that their responses should reflect the theme or main idea of the passage.*
4. Testing: Distribute the tests allowing 25-30 minutes. Tell the students to use their time well and not to hurry; to go back to blanks they may have skipped. Have the students read the introductory sentences silently as you read them aloud. Support them by circulating continuously around the room. You may offer assistance with one or two responses with students appearing to be stuck, however, try to limit your help to words of encouragement at their efforts. Encourage them to skip around in order to fill in as many blanks as possible. Encourage and praise them for their attention to the task. Collect all tests at the end of the testing period.
5. Scoring: Use the key to score the assessment. Credit is given only for the author's original word. No credit is given for synonyms. Spelling doesn't count. Count the correct responses, place that number over 50 and double the number to arrive at a percentage (i.e., $38/50 = 76\%$).
6. Graphing the Results: Use the CLOZE RESULTS GRAPH. List the students' scores on the Results Graph from highest score to lowest score. Use the following scale to assign a Standard Score for each student:

Score of 50% or higher = 3 (Above Standard, Independent Level)

Score of 29% - 49% = 2 (At Standard, Instructional Level)

Score below 29% = 1 (Below Standard, Frustrational Level)

After completing the CLOZE Results Graph, give one copy to your principal, send one copy to Dr. Delaware, and use your own copy to complete the Standards Assessment Class Record Sheet.

Name _____

5th GRADE CLOZE

This passage comes from a book called Beauty by Bill Wallace. Luke and his mother have just moved from Denver, Colorado to Oklahoma. Luke loved the mountains and the vacations he and his family spent at Lost Man Camp. He especially loved horseback riding on the Morning Trail. Now everything in his life was different.

I wasn't home. I wasn't in my room at our apartment in Denver. I was at Grampa's house.

Everything was unfamiliar, and _____ in the cool of _____ early morning it felt _____ and humid and dusty.

_____ gave a little groan, _____ flopped back down on _____ bed. I grabbed the _____ and pulled it over _____ face to shut out _____ light.

I was remembering _____ almost two years ago _____ left--in fact, longer _____ two years ago. I _____ Mama and Daddy fighting _____ lot, yelling at each _____, Daddy storming out of _____ house, Mama crying.

Lots _____ kids in my school _____ from families who had _____ up. But that was _____ something that happened to _____ else's family, *not mine*. _____ and Daddy kept telling _____ that. I'd hear them _____ at each other late _____ night. Most times it _____ me up, and I'd _____ plopping barefoot into their _____ to see what

was _____. They'd let me sit _____ the bed with them. _____ say they were just _____ a "discussion" and that _____ would be all right.

_____ when I went back _____ my room, I'd hear _____ start up again, just _____ soon as they thought _____ fallen asleep. Either that, _____ the next night the _____ would wake me once _____.

Then the year I _____ fourth grade, Daddy took _____ clothes and everything and _____. He and Mama were _____ divorced. He told me _____ he still loved me _____ much but that he _____ my mom just couldn't _____ along together anymore. He _____ that even though he was leaving, I was still his son. He'd see me every time he could. He'd even take me to Lost Man come summer.

Summer came. Daddy didn't.

Answer Key

5th GRADE CLOZE

This passage comes from a book called Beauty by Bill Wallace. Luke and his mother have just moved from Denver, Colorado to Oklahoma. Luke loved the mountains and the vacations he and his family spent at Lost Man Camp. He especially loved horseback riding on the Morning Trail. Now everything in his life was different.

I wasn't home. I wasn't in my room at our apartment in Denver. I was at Grampa's house.

Everything was unfamiliar, and even in the cool of the early morning it felt hot and humid and dusty.

I gave a little groan, then flopped back down on the bed. I grabbed the pillow and pulled it over my face to shut out the light.

I was remembering that almost two years ago Daddy left--in fact, longer than two years ago. I remembered Mama and Daddy fighting a lot, yelling at each other, Daddy storming out of the house, Mama crying.

Lots of kids in my school came from families who had split up. But that was always something that happened to somebody else's family, *not mine*. Mama and Daddy kept telling me that. I'd hear them yelling at each other late at night. Most times it woke me up, and I'd go plopping barefoot into their room to see what was wrong. They'd let me sit on the bed with them. They'd say they were just having a "discussion" and that everything would be all right.

But when I went back to my room, I'd hear them start up again, just as soon as they thought I'd fallen asleep. Either that, or the next night the fighting would wake me once more.

Then the year I started fourth grade, Daddy took his clothes and everything and moved. He and Mama were getting divorced. He told me that he still loved me very much but that he and my mom just couldn't get along together anymore. He said that even though he was leaving, I was still his son. He'd see me every time he could. He'd even take me to Lost Man come summer.

Summer came. Daddy didn't.