

GROUP B (B1)

FOAI-10 @Eastern Mediterranean University



MULTIPLE CHOICE CLOZE TESTS

ADVANTAGES

- Practical to mark
- Objective
- Contextual
- Controlled
- Familiarity

DISADVANTAGES

- Blind guessing
- Cheating factor
- Difficulty in finding strong distractors
- Risk of losing the flow/coherence of the text while adapting/item writing

Suggested Guidelines

- Layout: Pay attention to the spacing between options and question/option numbers
- Avoid reading load and consider the language level of the text (L-1)
- Avoid adding more than one item in each sentence
- 3 or 4 options?
- Vocabulary and Grammar in the same text?
- Distribution of correct answers

DISCRETE ITEMS

ADVANTAGES

- Comparatively easier to construct items
- More variety of grammatical structures/objectives

Suggested Guidelines

- Enough contextual clues

DISADVANTAGES

- Elimination factor
- The answer of the second one may depend on the first one
- Traditional

ERROR CORRECTION

ADVANTAGES

- Increases language/metacognitive awareness

DISADVANTAGES

- Difficult to form task specifications

Suggested Guidelines

- Correction should be a part of this task
- Avoid using in lower levels
- More applicable in quizzes/formative assessment
- The difficulty level of the text and the test items should be consistent (e.g. S-V agreement)
- Avoid testing both grammar and vocabulary in the same item

SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION

ADVANTAGES

- More production involved

DISADVANTAGES

- Difficult to score and grade
- There may be many correct answers

Suggested Guidelines

- Limit the words (instructions: Use NO MORE THAN 5 words)
- Ground rules needed (e.g. punctuation and spelling mistakes)
- Standardization is essential for grading

WORD FORMATION

ADVANTAGES

- One of the best ways to test vocabulary knowledge
- A way to increase structural/syntax knowledge

DISADVANTAGES

- Grading might be problematic

Suggested Guidelines

- In the instructions the use of CAPITAL letters could be mentioned (handwriting legibility)
- Ground rules needed
- MC-discrete for lower levels; gap-filling for upper levels
- Task familiarity is essential



ALTERNATIVE TASK

Alternative Vocabulary Quiz

- Weekly target words given
- Students are asked to write a paragraph using the target words meaningfully and accurately.
- Ground rules/standardization sessions essential.