

Key: Cloze Exercise

The Winchester Mystery House is a well-known mansion in the state of California. It once was the personal residence of Sarah Winchester, the widow of businessman William Winchester. It was continuously under construction for 38 years and was thought to be haunted. Under Sarah Winchester's guidance, its construction proceeded around the clock, without interruption, from 1884 until her death on September 5, 1922. At that time, work immediately stopped. The cost for such constant building has been estimated at about U.S. \$5.5 million, if paid for in 1922. In today's dollars, it would be over \$75 million dollars.

Note: Students may write options that make sense both grammatically and semantically, but are different from the passage here. Cloze tests require that the instructor evaluate the choices students make individually, and not just from the key.

Cloze Exercise: The Winchester Mystery House

The Winchester Mystery House _____ a well-known mansion in the _____ of California. It once was the personal _____ of Sarah Winchester, the widow _____ businessman William Winchester. It was continuously _____ construction for 38 years and was _____ to be haunted. Under Sarah Winchester's guidance, _____ construction proceeded around the _____, without interruption, from 1884 _____ her death on September 5, 1922. At that _____, work immediately stopped. The cost for _____ constant building has been _____ at about U.S. \$5.5 million, if _____ for in 1922. In today's dollars, it _____ be over \$75 million dollars.