Thank your for trying CLOTHES CLOSET (C) . This is a simple program which gives extensive practice in reading close skills in a DOS environment. Actually, this program is being developed in response to teachers who have asked me to write programs they can use with the 286 and 386 machines that they still have in great numbers in schools. I have Windows programs that use the same data in a much updated presentation and record keeping format.

I have included a small batch file to install the program. Copy it to a floppy and at the DOS prompt type a:\install to set up the program.

To run the program type LPTDOS.EXE at the DOS prompt.

I have kept the basic program simple and short. Upon loading, you will see a menu box in the middle of the screen. It is acticated by entering one of the numbers and then pressing the ENTER key. I have not made it mouse activated because many machines being used in schools are not mouse capable.

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CLOTHES CLOSET (C) Reading Close Interactive Program
Action English (c) 1996 David W. King

<1> Enter Name and Practice Sentences

<2> Log in With ID Number

<3> New Student Registation

<4> Exit Program

Type a Number and Press the ENTER key.

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This is a fascimile of the main menu. There are three program choices that students can make.

<1> Enter Name and Practice Sentences

In this mode students are presented with a series of menu choices in the next screen. To use, enter a number and press the ENTER key. Each time a student uses the program, he or she will be required to enter his or her name and other data. These data are recorded in a file scores.txt for later analysis.

<2>   Log in With ID Number

In this mode, the recommended mode, students use a computer generated number to enter the program. The computed uses a data base

to analyze a student's performance and to assign the correct level of English skills. Students basically progress through the 88 levels of the program and must master each skill with a score of 100% two times to go on to another level. I have, in effect, made an entire close curriculum for a year of middle or high school available in a computerized form. When a student completes all levels, he or she will view a congratulatory box and the level will be rewritten to 1 again. The computer automatically keeps track of level and even the number of times that a student has used the program. I find this excellent for convincing administrators that the computers are being used enough to justify their cost.

<3>   New Student Registration

This mode enables the student or teacher to enter a child in the program and will assign each student a unique number for him or her to use when entering the program via menu number 2. This section is password controlled because students will repeatedly enter themselves as new students, filling up the data base with useless entries and getting no where in the program.

THE PASSWORD IS spoon.

Type this in the box and follow instructions.

<4>   Exit Program

This exits the program. If your send registration money, I will mail you a version without the nag screen.

ACADEMIC RIGOR

I have tried to make the program challenging enough so that students will have to think about the items and not breeze through the exercises. Each segment has been scanned for ease of reading and proceeds from 5th and 8th grade level in reading difficulty.

That's about it.

I have entered one record in the data base for you to experiment: Enter 2 by typing 2 at the main menu. Then enter 1 and the middle initial A. You will presented with the record screen for George A. Custer. Follow instructions and type the verbs in the sentences. Note that if there is more than one answer in a sentence, you must type all of the answers in the same order in which they appear in the sentence itself. Any extra spaces or characters will make the answer wrong. Students, in particular, often type an extra space after the last answer word; this will make the answer count as wrong. Computers teach adherence to details and precision as well as skills.

For a full version of the program as well as a data base program that will read, edit, enter, print, and delete records you must pay for and register the program.

With registration, I will make a specific program for your school along with a title with your school name and disabling of the ending nag screen.

Mail $17.50 U.S. currency to:

> David W. King
> 4016 Oak Moss Ct.
> Chesapeake, VA 23321

and you will receive a nifty disk with a registered version of the program as well as a database. A site license can be obtained for $52.50 U.S. currency. I have installed this program in one middle school with a LAN and it works throughout the lab, keeping records on a central computer.

You may load and use this program for a period of 30 days for evaluation purposes. After this you must legally register or erase the program.

Contact me at dking999@aol.com with commments or questions about the program. I am sure there are lingering typographic errors, so contact me immediately if an answer seems wrong.

The first five people who E-mail me at the above address will receive the program absolutely free. But you must E-mail me.

You can find samples of my programs by searching the American On Line libraries for dking999.

I am presently developing a series of English programs for both DOS and Windows. These include :

> Action English (c)   Basic grammar practice
> Spelling Frenzy (c)   Spelling practice
> Clothes Closet (c)   Close reading practice

Dave King 11.20.96.