

In the space below, a text from the *International Herald Tribune* has been turned into a cloze passage, in order to illustrate a variety of deletion procedures:

Olympics Prompt Conference Center Growth

11th Word Deletion: The Olympic Games, to be held in Athens in August 2004, are providing Greece with an excellent opportunity to promote several aspects of its tourism industry. The country combines a wealth of history and culture with delightful vacation spots. With the limelight now on Greece, both the government and private initiatives are increasing efforts to ensure convention centers have and state-of-the-art conference facilities also put the country _____ on the map as a meeting place to discuss and _____ business.

9th Word Deletion: Revenue from tourism – Greece's primary source of foreign income exchange – is expected to grow from about \$11 billion at this year to some \$31 billion in 2005. About 9 percent * of the 13 million visitors to Greece last year were delegates attending conferences, congresses or exhibitions. On _____, these delegates spend four times as much as money. Moreover, they are usually in the higher income bracket and, having acquired a taste of what Greece has to offer, often come back for family holidays.

7th Word Deletion: Realizing the growth potential, an increasing # of hotels, most of them in the luxury category, now include convention centers _____ to accommodate large international meetings. Greece is currently home to 105 convention centers with capacity to hold up to 500 people, 24 centers with capacity to hold up to 1,000 attendees and five able to accommodate up to 2,000 delegates in the hall. About 85 % of these _____ facilities are in hotels.

5th Word Deletion: In addition to 17,600 _____ and their trainers and _____ 20,000 journalists, a few _____ visitors are expected to _____ on Athens for the olympic Games. During their stay they are also likely to travel to other parts of the country, especially to the _____ islands, for a taste of Greek hospitality and fun. _____ meet demand in the _____ Athens area, the government has lifted a 1986 ban _____ hotel building in the _____, considered saturated until Greece _____ the bid to hold _____ Games. The government has also provided various financial incentives _____ hotels looking to renovate and add convention centers.

Rational Deletion (Prepositions): According to Minister of Development Nikos Christodoulakis, in charge of tourism, a total of 67 proposals have been submitted to the construction of class-A hotels and on the renovation of others that have closed down. Even the Greek Orthodox Church has jumped on the bandwagon, for a proposal to build three hotels. Some of these new hotels will feature convention facilities.

On the following page, the original text has been printed:

Olympics Prompt Conference Center Growth

The Olympic Games, to be held in Athens in August 2004, are providing Greece with an excellent opportunity to promote several aspects of its tourism industry. The country combines a wealth of history and culture with delightful vacation spots. With the limelight now on Greece, both the government and private initiatives are increasing efforts to ensure convention centers and state-of-the-art conference facilities also put the country firmly on the map as a meeting place to discuss and do business.

Revenue from tourism – Greece’s primary source of foreign exchange – is expected to grow from about \$11 billion this year to some \$31 billion in 2005. About 9 percent of the 13 million visitors to Greece last year were delegates attending conferences, congresses or exhibitions. On average, these delegates spend four times as much as vacationers. Moreover, they are usually in the higher income brackets and, having acquired a taste of what Greece has to offer, often come back for family holidays.

Realizing the growth potential, an increasing number of hotels, most of them in the luxury category, now include convention centers able to accommodate large international meetings. Greece is currently home to 105 convention centers with capacity to hold up to 500 participants, 24 centers with capacity to hold up to 1,000 attendees and five able to accommodate up to 2,000 delegates in one hall. About 85 percent of these convention facilities are in hotels.

In addition to 17,600 athletes and their trainers and some 20,000 journalists, a few million visitors are expected to descend on Athens for the Olympic Games. During their stay many are also likely to travel to other parts of the country, especially to the legendary islands, for a taste of Greek hospitality and fun. To meet demand in the larger Athens area, the government has lifted a 1986 ban on hotel building in the capital, considered saturated until Greece won the bid to hold the Games. The government has also provided various financial incentives to hotels looking to renovate and add convention centers.

According to Minister of Development Nikos Christodoulakis, in charge of tourism, a total of 67 proposals have been submitted for the construction of class-A hotels and for the renovation of others that have closed down. Even the Greek Orthodox Church has jumped on the bandwagon, with a proposal to build three hotels. Some of these new hotels will feature convention facilities.

Michaelian, Nikos. 2001. *International Herald Tribune*, March 13, 2001, page 5.

(Note: The passage took less than two minutes for a native speaker of English to read. The person describes himself as a “slow reader.”)