

## Klondike - Constructed Response (PAINTED)

Citing evidence from the text, explain how the author demonstrates the difficulty of finding success in the Klondike.

The Klondike was a dangerous place to be during the gold rush.

Context

This was true for not only gold seekers but also for businessmen

and women. The author of this article demonstrates the challenges

Focus  
statement

of running a business in the Klondike in many ways throughout

this article. One obvious challenge was the sheer number of

Context

people who were in competition over gold and the lack of gold

available. The author writes that “of the 40,000 people who

reached Dawson, only about 15,000 actually had the grit to work

Concrete  
Detail

the gold fields; of those, about a quarter actually unearthed any

gold, and only a handful of them became wealthy. Of that handful,

a very few managed to hang onto their wealth.” This shows that for

Commentary

most people, success was very hard to find in the Klondike. Even

those who found gold, often lost their fortunes through gambling

and drinking. Others could not hold onto their success for different

Context

reasons, including businessman, Alex McDonald, who “became

obsessed with buying up unwanted claims and eventually found

Concrete  
Detail

himself stuck with a lot of worthless real estate. He died broke and

alone.” This shows that even the most successful had trouble

Commentary

maintaining their success over time. Overall, it is easy to see that

Concluding  
Sentence

finding success in the Klondike was certainly a difficult challenge.