

Relative clauses:

Objectives: Explore how different relative pronouns are used in sentences to introduce additional detail.

Relative Clauses

It is used to give extra information about the nouns in the main clause, without starting another sentence. A **relative clause** starts with a relative pronoun.

who / that	Subject or object pronoun for people	That's the woman who bought my house.
which / that	Subject or object pronoun for ANIMALS or THINGS	The horse which Mary was riding is very friendly and beautiful.
where	Refers to a PLACE	We found the wood where I used to go.
when	Refers to a TIME expression	I will never forget the day when I graduated.
whose	POSSESSION for people, animals and things	The mother whose child is missing is very sad.



Sometimes a subordinate clause is introduced by the **relative pronoun** 'who' (when referring to a person) or the **relative pronoun** 'which' (when referring to an animal or a thing)

Examples *I told you about the woman **who** lives next door.*

*Do you see the cat **which** is lying on the roof?*



Sometimes a connective and subordinate clause can be dropped into the middle of the main clause.

Example *The older boy, who was much more sensible, prepared the barbecue.*

Subordinate clause (relative clause)



Exercises:

1. Choose subordinate clauses from the box to complete each sentence.

which had a hole in it which was starving who had hurt her toe
which was singing loudly who had borrowed the money

- a) The girl, who had borrowed the money, saved up to pay it back.
- b) The old boat, which had a hole in it, sank in the lake.
- c) Emma, who had hurt her toe, was limping badly.
- d) The bird, which was singing loudly, was a lark.
- e) The thin dog, which was starving, gobbled up all the food.

2. Complete these sentences using who or which.

- a. I found the key _____ **which** _____ opens the old box.
- b. Emma wrote to her uncle, _____ **who** _____ had sent her a present.
- c. Amir is the boy _____ **who** _____ won first prize.
- d. Natalie went back to the shop _____ **which** _____ had sold the red shoes.

3. Combine the following sentences using a relative pronoun:

- a. Shakespeare is one of the best-known writers in the world. He is buried in Stratford.

Shakespeare, who is one of the best-known writers in the world, is buried in Stratford.

- b. Dan's bedroom is very big. He shares it with his brother.

Dan's bedroom, which he shares with his brother, is very big.

- c. I sent you a postcard. It was written on the summit of Ben Nevis.

The postcard, which I sent you, was written on the summit of Ben Nevis

- d. The waitress spilt the soup. She was obviously new at the job.

The waitress, who spilt the soup, was obviously new at the job.

e. The castle stands above the town. It was built by the Normans.

The castle, which was built by the Normans, stands above town.

f. The Titanic sank in 1912. It was supposed to be unsinkable.

The Titanic, which was supposed to be unsinkable, sank in 1912.

g. Maria is a brilliant girl. She is 12 years old. She lives with her grandmother.

Maria is a brilliant 12 years old girl who lives with her grandmother.

b. Complete the following sentences using the suitable relative pronoun

1. I know a great little restaurant ... we can get lunch.
a) that
b) who
c) where
2. Sam knows a man ... brother works for the president.
a) who
b) whose
c) whom
3. Students ... study hard get good grades.
a) when
b) whom
c) who
4. Food ... is imported from other countries is expensive.
a) that
b) where
c) why
5. The bad weather is the reason ... I was late for class yesterday.
a) whom
b) when
c) why
6. The cookies ... you baked are really delicious.
a) why
b) which
c) when
7. My grandfather remembers the time ... there was no television.
a) when
b) where
c) that
8. I visited my uncle ... lives in a different city.
a) who
b) which
c) when
9. The movie ... we saw last week won three awards.
a) who
b) when
c) which
10. Do you know the reason ... there are no penguins at the North Pole?
a) where
b) why
c) whose
11. The people ... names are on the list will stay here.
a) whose
b) where
c) that
12. He had a feeling ... something terrible was going to happen.
a) why
b) who
c) that
13. I want to borrow the book ... you bought last month.
a) whom
b) that
c) when
14. My home is a place ... I can come home and relax after work.
a) where
b) when
c) whom
15. Most of the people ... she met were from Sydney.
a) whom
b) when
c) whose
16. Can you find the teacher ... you talked to this morning?
a) whose
b) whom
c) when