

The relative clauses

Introduction:

Search in Google "relative clauses" and go to the "images" section. What do you see? Choose the image that you think it may contain the most complete information about relative clauses. **Is easier to understand with visual representation?** Analyze it very well because it will help you to complete the following tasks about relative clauses.

Task:

Do you have problems differentiating the relative clauses? Well, this WebQuest will help you to identify if a sentence is defining or non-defining relative clauses, and also, how to create them on your own.

Process and resources:



Relative clauses give us information about the person or thing mentioned.

It is divided in 2 types:

Defining

Identifies who or what we are speaking about and is essential in a sentence because we need it in order to know who or what someone is describing.

Non-defining

It gives us more information about who or what we are speaking about. In other words, it is not essential in a sentence.

How to identify them:

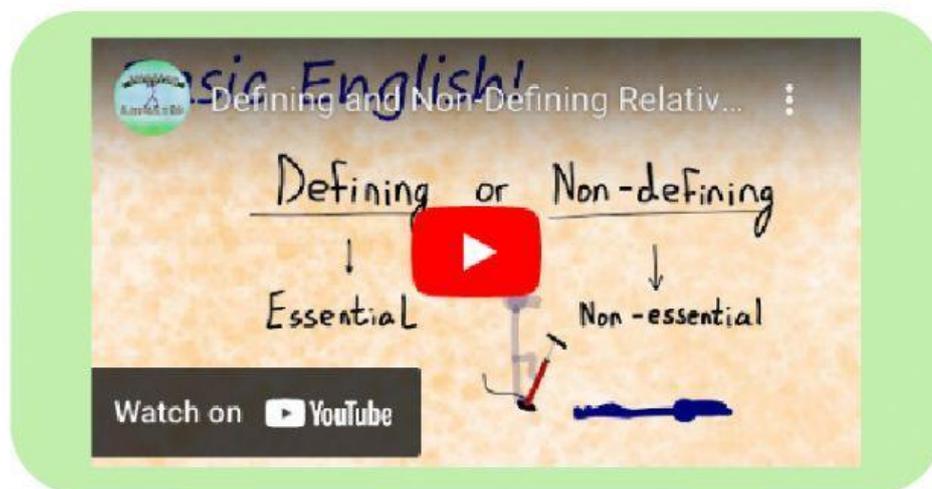
- **Defining**

Usually comes immediately after the noun it describes. It may use: who, that, which, whose and whom.

- **Non-defining**

We always use who, which, whose, when or where (but not that) to start a non-defining clause. We also use commas to separate the clause from the rest of the sentence.

Watch this video to help you out!



Remember!

A **defining relative clause** looks like this:

- Children **who hate chocolate** are uncommon.
- An elephant is an animal **that lives in hot countries**.

A **non-defining relative clause** looks like this:

- My grandfather, **who's 87**, goes swimming every day.
- The house, **which was built in 1883**, has just been opened to the public.

Now you are prepared for a little exercise, let's go!

Read the sentences and write if they are "defining" or "non-defining".

1. An elephant is an animal that lives in hot countries:

2. Let's go to a country where the sun always shines:

3. The reason why I came here today is not important:

4. The award was given to Sara, whose short story impressed the judges:

5. December, which Christmas is celebrated in, is a summer month for the southern hemisphere:

6. The doctor that I was hoping to see wasn't on duty:

Excellent!, now you know how to differentiate defining and non-defining relative clauses!

But, do you know how to use them?

Conclusion:

Great! you completed the WebQuest. Now, you know how many differences can be in defining and non-defining relative clauses. This topic is relevant when learning English as a foreign language, since it help us to share information, identify and create them on our own. Relative clauses give us another option to express into words.

This WebQuest showed you some examples in which you may see relative clauses, but now it's your turn. What do you want to express?, can relative clauses help you to do it better? Thank you for completing all the activities, see you next time!

goodbye

