

Relative pronouns

- A relative pronoun – *who* or *that* – is necessary when the pronoun is the subject of the clause: I'd love to meet someone **who/that** is considerate. (NOT: I'd love to meet someone is considerate.)
- When the pronoun is the object of the clause, *who* and *that* can be left out: I'd like a roommate **who/that** I have a lot in common with. OR I'd like a roommate **I have a lot in common with**.

Complete the conversation with *who* or *that*. Put an **x** when a relative pronoun isn't necessary.

A: Ana, have you met Clint – the guy _____ **x** _____ Laurie is going to marry?

B: Oh, Clint and I have been friends for years. In fact, I'm the one _____ introduced Laurie and Clint.

A: Do you think they're right for each other?

B: Definitely. They're two people _____ have a lot in common – but not *too* much.

A: What does that mean?

B: Well, you don't want a partner _____ doesn't have his or her own interests. Couples _____ do everything together usually last very long.

A: I guess you're right, but the opposite isn't good, either. My last girlfriend was someone _____ I had nothing in common with. She wasn't the kind of girl _____ I could talk to easily.

B: Well, you can talk to *me* easily....

Defining and non-defining relative clauses

- Use either *who* or *that* in defining relative clauses about people. A set designer is an artist **who/that** makes important contributions to a theater production. BUT Use only *who* in non-defining relative clauses about people: A set designer, **who** makes important contributions to a theater production, has to be very creative. (NOT: A set designer, **that** makes...)
- Use commas before and after a non-defining clause: A gossip columnist, **who** writes about celebrities and scandals, often gets to go to fabulous parties.

Combine these sentences with *who* or *that*. Add a comma wherever one is necessary.

1. A cartoon animator creates animated scenes for movies and games. He or she needs to have a high level of technical know-how.

A cartoon animator, who needs to have a high level of technical know-how, creates animated scenes for movies and games.

2. A screenwriter is a talented person. He or she develops a story idea into a movie script.

A screenwriter is a talented person that develops a story idea into a movie script.

3. Voice-over actors are usually freelancers. They give voice to characters in animated movies and video games.

4. Casting directors choose an actor for each part in a movie. They have usually been in the movie business and video games.

5. High-budget movies always use big stars. The stars are known around the world.

6. Movie directors are greatly respected. They “make or break” a film.
