

Relative Pronouns

Relative clauses	
<p>Defining relative clauses are used to specify which person or thing we mean.</p> <p>Who or that are used for people. Which or that are used for things.</p> <p>We don't use commas in a defining relative clause.</p>	<p><i>I have a friend who / that speaks five languages.</i></p> <p><i>She showed me the coat which / that she had bought.</i></p>
<p>Non-defining relative clauses (extra information clauses) are used to add extra information to a sentence.</p> <p>We use commas in a non-defining relative clause.</p> <p>Who is used for people. Which is used for things. That cannot be used.</p>	<p><i>Mr. Fry, who speaks five languages, works as a translator for the EU.</i> Mr Fry, that speaks five languages, works as a translator for the EU.</p> <p><i>The area, which has very high unemployment, is in the north of the country.</i> The area, that has very high unemployment, is in the north of the country.</p>
Relative pronouns	
<p>We can use who or that when we talk about people.</p> <p>Who is more formal than that.</p>	<p><i>This is the man who helped us. (more formal)</i></p> <p><i>This is the man that helped us. (less formal)</i></p> <p>We don't use <i>what</i>: This is the man what helped us.</p>
<p>We use which or that when we talk about things (but not people).</p>	<p><i>It's the watch which my husband bought me for my birthday. (more formal)</i></p>

Which is more formal than that .	<i>It's the watch that my husband bought me for my birthday. (less formal)</i>
In informal speech, we can omit which and that when the pronoun refers to the object of the sentence.	<i>It's the watch my husband bought me for my birthday.</i> In this sentence, 'the watch' is the object of the verb <i>bought</i> so we don't need to use <i>that</i> or <i>which</i> .
We cannot omit which and that when the pronoun refers to the subject of the sentence.	<i>It was the man that sold me the car.</i> In this sentence, 'the man' is the subject of the verb <i>sold</i> so we need to use <i>that</i> or <i>who</i> . <i>It was the man sold me the car.</i>
We use whose to show possession.	<i>John, whose brother was also a musician, plays over 100 concerts every year.</i>
We use where when the pronoun refers to a place.	<i>The restaurant where we met was downtown.</i>
We use when when the pronoun refers to a time.	<i>I can meet you tomorrow when I'll be free.</i>

Complete the sentences with a relative pronoun. Sometimes more than an answer is possible.

that – which – who – whose – where – when

1. I don't know _____ is the man standing at the front door.
2. John lives in a town _____ he works.
3. John lives in a town _____ is near the ocean.
4. I love spring _____ the birds sing songs.
5. That's the woman _____ daughter I love very much.
6. The flat _____ my sister rented last year is really nice.
7. Dictionaries are books _____ are very useful for me.

8. Oscar met an old friend _____ was at primary school 20 years ago.
9. The salesclerk was talking to a customer _____ was very furious.
10. George was the tour guide _____ showed me the National Gallery.
11. Rose bought a carpet _____ was made in Turkey.
12. A vegetarian is someone _____ never eats meat.
13. The woman _____ called yesterday wasn't very kind.
14. The red car, _____ David drove last Summer, was German.
15. Ireland is a country _____ I always wanted to visit.
16. Yolanda is reading a book _____ is about the power of mind.
17. They didn't like the movie _____ they borrowed from Susie.
18. The movie, _____ they borrowed from Susie, talks about a family.
19. A mechanic is a person _____ repairs cars and trucks.
20. Alex found a job in a company _____ builds planes.
21. The soccer player _____ scored the goal was Italian.
22. Paul is the neighbor _____ son is very friendly.
23. Alice travelled to India _____ she visited nice places.
24. All my personal documents, _____ were in the suitcase, were stolen.
25. My bike, _____ has a broken seat, is in the garage.
26. London Bridge is one of the most popular places _____ people want to go.

27. London Bridge is one of the most popular places _____ people want to visit.
28. The people, _____ were stopped at the border were all from Eastern Europe.
29. He is the consultant _____ advice I rely on.
30. This is Mary, _____ is taking over my job when I leave.
31. The teacher, _____ comes from Scotland, gives Math classes.
32. The photocopier, _____ has a two-year guarantee, costs \$2000.
33. The day _____ the concert takes place is Saturday.
34. He is the one _____ the award should be given to.
35. The President of the company, _____ I really admire, is visiting us next week.