

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

WORKSHEET 8



Defining relative clauses

Defining relative clauses give essential explanatory information about the subject or object of a sentence. The subject or object can be a person, thing or place.

We use the relative pronouns **who**, **which**, **whose**, or **that** to introduce defining relative clauses.

We use **who** or **that** when the defining relative clause gives information about a person.

Main clause	'I spoke to the man.'
Essential information	'Which man?' 'He painted this picture.'
Sentence with defining relative clause	'I spoke to the man who/that painted this picture.'

We use **which** or **that** when the defining relative clause gives information about a thing or animal.

Main clause	'I've eaten the cake.'
Essential information	'Which cake?' 'You made it.'
Sentence with defining relative clause	'I've eaten the cake which/that you made.'

We use **whose** when the defining relative clause gives information linking a person to another person or thing as a possession.

Main clause	'I was helping the girl.'
Essential information	'Which girl?' 'Her suitcase broke.'
Sentence with defining relative clause	'I was helping the girl whose suitcase broke.'



We use the relative adverb **where** when the defining relative clause gives information about a place.

Main clause	'We're going to the café.'
Essential information	'Which café?' 'Anna works there.'
Sentence with defining relative clause	'We're going to the café where Anna works.'

When the person or thing is the object of the defining relative clause, the relative pronoun (**who**, **which** or **that**) can be omitted.

object
 ↓
 I spoke to **a girl**. You met **her** yesterday.
 I spoke to the girl (**who/that**) you met yesterday.

We can't do this when the person or thing is the subject of the defining relative clause.

subject
 ↓
 I spoke to a girl. **She's** got eight brothers.
 I spoke to a girl **who's** got eight brothers.

We can never omit the relative pronouns **whose** and **where**.



I. Complete the sentences with 'who' or 'which'

- 1 I met a woman who looked like your mother.
- 2 Where's the magazine was on the table?
- 3 Is there someone can help us?
- 4 Mike bought a computer cost £1,500.
- 5 The man called last night didn't leave a message.
- 6 My sister works in the clothes shop is next to the library.
- 7 The woman lives in that house is a famous writer.
- 8 The bag is on the chair is Sophie's.
- 9 Our new neighbours have got a dog barks all night!
- 10 Do you know anyone wants to buy these tickets?

II. Circle the extra word in these sentence

- 1 The sandwich that it is on the table is for Peter.
- 2 These are the CDs that I bought them yesterday.
- 3 Is that the girl who she won the race?
- 4 The man that he entered the building was wearing a long black coat.
- 5 I don't really like films that they don't have a happy ending.
- 6 That's the vase that it cost my mum £500!
- 7 Where's the money that I left it on my desk this morning?
- 8 Is this the woman that she has just moved in the house next door?

III. Complete the text about Charles Dickens's book 'Oliver twist'. Use 'who, which, where and whose'.



Charles Dickens was an English writer **who** lived from 1812 to 1870. The books he wrote are famous all around the world. In many of his books he wrote about children ¹_____ were poor and ²_____ had difficult lives. He often wrote about people ³_____ he had known and places ⁴_____ he had lived. In some of his books he wrote about terrible schools like the one ⁵_____ he went to himself.

Perhaps you know the story of Oliver Twist. 'Oliver Twist' is the book ⁶_____ was made into the successful musical called 'Oliver'. It is about a boy ⁷_____ mother died when he was born. Because there was nobody ⁸_____ could look after Oliver, he had to live in a workhouse. A workhouse was a place ⁹_____ very poor people and children without parents lived. The people ¹⁰_____ ran the workhouse were very cruel. The children had to work very hard. They were always tired, cold and hungry. Oliver was the only boy ¹¹_____ was brave enough to ask for more food.

Oliver ran away to London. He met an older boy ¹²_____ promised him food and somewhere to sleep. Oliver didn't know that the boy lived with thieves ¹³_____ stole from people's pockets. The name of the old man ¹⁴_____ taught the boys to steal was Fagin. A lot of bad things happened to Oliver, but he met a very kind old man ¹⁵_____ had known his mother. In the end, the man saved him from Fagin and gave him a good home and a safe future.



SENTENCE BUILDING

I. Join the sentences, using relative clauses.

1. There is the house. My aunt wants to buy it.

There is the house that my aunt want to buy.

2. An old man answered the door. He was Jake's grandfather.

3. "Wanted" is the film. It made him famous.

4. A girl is standing over there. She is my cousin.

5. That is the boy. He teaches me English at my school.

6. Here is the note. Ben left it for you this morning.

7. I ate the sandwich. It was in the fridge.

8. We stayed in a hotel. It had a huge swimming pool.

II. Use the given words to make a meaningful sentence.

- 1 a reporter / someone / work for a newspaper.

A reporter is someone who works for a newspaper.

- 2 an author / someone / write / books

- 3 a parrot / a bird / can talk

- 4 a ruler / something / we use to draw straight lines

- 5 a dentist / someone / look after / your teeth

- 6 a waiter / someone / work / in a restaurant

- 7 an ostrich / a very large bird / can run very fast

- 8 a thief / a person / steal / things

III. Look at a picture of a school in England. Make sentences using the given words.

- machine/students use to research topics
- person/train a sports team
- vehicle/take students to and from school
- place/students do science experiments
- place/students read books
- person/educate students



1 teacher



2 school bus



3 library



4 computer



5 laboratory



6 coach

1 *A teacher is a person who educates students.*

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

