2 BAT UNIT 2

RELATIVE CLAUSES

RELATIVE CLAUSES

They are sentences which give us information and are used to join sentences.

Defining relative clauses **No commas. We give essential / concrete information about a noun (antecedent).**

I saw the girl who works with you
1 2 3

1 The girl: antecedent (who are we talking about?)
2 Who: pronoun. Refers to the ……..
3 Phrase: gives information about the girl, distinguishing her from the rest

- **Pronouns or adverbs:**

PRONOUN	ANTECEDENT	EXAMPLE
W… T …	People	The boy …… came was my neighbour
W… T …	Objects, animals, concepts	This is the book …… was so expensive
W…	Time	I remember (the day) …… we met
W…	Place	That's (the place) …… I lost my purse
W…	Possession	She's the woman ……. husband lives abroad
W…	People (after prepositions or formal expressions)	He's the man for …… I work

- **Omission of which, who or that when there is a different subject.**

She's the woman we saw yesterday
Subject 1 Subject 2

That's the dog I wanted to adopt
Subject 1 Subject 2

We cannot omit which, who or that when they are the subject

She's the woman who saw us

That's the dog which escaped

- **When can be sometimes omitted.**

I remember (the day) when we met = I remember the …

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- **Preposition + Whom is a very formal pronoun and not very common especially in speaking. As it is not the subject, it is usually omitted.**

  Formal: She's the lady about whom we were speaking
  Informal: She's the lady we were speaking ……..

  Formal: He's the man to ……. I was talking
  Informal: He's the man …….

- **We can never omit whose**

  He's the man ……. family tried to get rid of him
  I bought the house ……. doors are all blue

- **What and that**
  - **What** introduces a question (direct or indirect form)

    He asked me what I wanted
  - **What is a synonym of the thing that/which thing**

    He told me what I wanted to know
  - **That** may be a relative pronoun

    I need the pen that is on the table
  - **That** also introduces an indirect statement

    He said that he wanted to leave

3.1. Non- defining relative clauses. With commas. We give extra or unnecessary information about a noun.

The man, who is about 80 years old, **still goes swimming every day**
extra information

Main clause: The man still goes swimming every day
Subordinate clause: who is about 80 years old (extra information)

We cannot use that
We can never omit the pronoun

Tutorial 1	Tutorial 2	Tutorial 3	Tutorial 4
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LIVEWORKSHEETS