

## Relative clauses: DEFINING AND NON-DEFINING

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

**Defining relative clauses** give us **ESSENTIAL information** about someone or something – information that we need in order to understand what or who is being referred to.

**Non-defining relative clauses** give us **EXTRA information** about someone or something. It isn't essential for understanding who or what we are talking about.

### Warning:

The **relative pronouns** WHO, WHICH, and WHOSE can all be used in **non-defining relative clauses**. However, THAT is only used in **defining relative clauses**.

### I. Choose whether the sentence includes a DEFINING or NON-DEFINING relative clause.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. She is the one who kindly helped me with my shopping.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining                        | 6. Paris is the city where I grew up.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining   |
| 2. My brother, who lives in Boston, is an accountant.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining                           | 7. The play that my friend was in was a bit boring.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining                           |
| 3. The house he bought, which is in central London, is really beautiful.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining        | 8. My employers haven't given me my holiday pay yet, which really isn't fair.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining |
| 4. Can I buy the dress that's displayed in the window?<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining                          | 9. They are the children whose father was arrested yesterday.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining                 |
| 5. Anne, whose sister is also a friend of mine, is going to join us for dinner.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining | 10. President Kennedy, whom I really admire, was assassinated in 1963.<br>A. Defining<br>B. Non-defining        |

### II. Choose the correct relative pronoun to fill the gap.

- The hotel, \_\_\_\_\_ is in the centre of the town, is to be knocked down and replaced by a bank.  
A. that  
B. which  
C. whose
- The horse \_\_\_\_\_ was hit by the car was only slightly hurt.  
A. which  
B. who  
C. whose

4. A hammer is a tool \_\_\_\_\_ is used to knock nails into wood.
- A. that
  - B. who
  - C. whose
5. I didn't realize I had forgotten my passport until I reached the airport, \_\_\_\_\_ was very annoying.
- A. that
  - B. whose
  - C. which
6. My friend, \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't have a cell phone, suddenly knocked on the door last night.
- A. that
  - B. who
  - C. whose
7. The students \_\_\_\_\_ test grades were low had to come back after school for an extra lesson.
- A. that
  - B. who
  - C. whose
8. The boy \_\_\_\_\_ dog was hit by a car has not been to school for 3 days,
- A. which
  - B. who
  - C. whose
9. Do you know anyone \_\_\_\_\_ could help me fix my computer?
- A. which
  - B. who
  - C. whose
10. Can you please return the calculator \_\_\_\_\_ you borrowed yesterday?
- A. that
  - B. who
  - C. whose