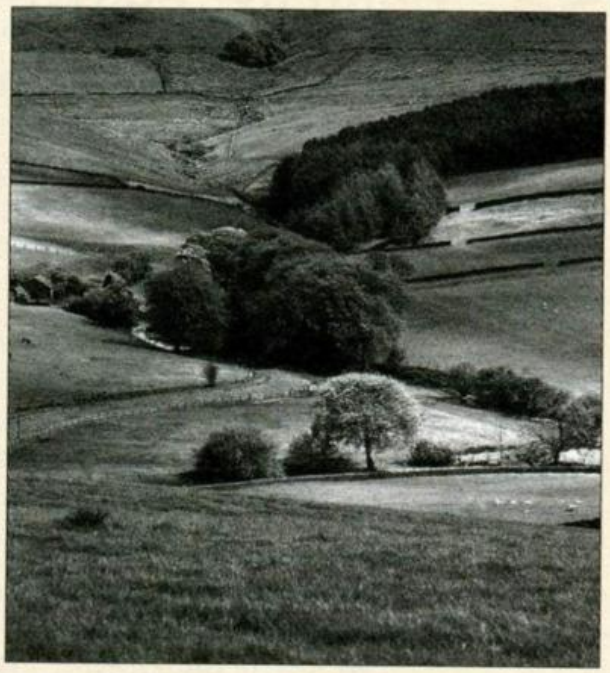
Grammar Practice

Units 52 & 53: Defining and Non-Defining Relative Clauses

Read the theory and solve.

Defining Relative Clauses

52a Complete the article. Use relative pronouns.



Britain's largest cave was discovered in the Peak District by a group of people (0) ..*who*.. followed the clues in a 200-year old book. The cave, called Titan, is about 140 metres from floor to ceiling. It also has a huge waterfall (1) ..... falls far below the level of the ground.

Dave Nixon read about the cave in a paper (2) ..... was written in 1793. The writer, James Plumtree, was an academic about (3) ..... we know very little and (4) ..... paper was found by Mr Nixon in a university library. In this paper, Plumtree described a cave system (5) ..... went far beyond what anyone had explored in the area.

Mr Nixon and a group of friends spent three more years removing the rocks (6) ..... concealed the entrance to the cave. He pointed out that it was research and hard work (7) ..... helped him and his collaborators find the cave, not luck. The cave is now an important tourist attraction in the area (8) ..... it was discovered.

52b Join the sentences. Use the underlined sentences to form defining relative clauses. Omit the relative pronoun where possible.

0 She's the one. I told you about her.
She's the one I told you about.

1 The family moved here from Ireland. They live next door.
.....

2 The woman is coming back to work soon. I'm doing her job.
.....

3 This is the job. I've always wanted it.
.....

4 It was during my first year of university. I first met Bernard then.
.....

5 The hotel is the most expensive in the area. It overlooks the sea.
.....

6 That's the house. We lived there when we were university students.
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Non-Defining Relative Clauses

53a Join the sentences. Use the underlined sentences to form non-defining relative clauses.

0 My parents are coming to visit me in England. <u>They live in Australia</u>.
My parents, who live in Australia, are coming to visit me in England.

1 Their e-mail says they'll be staying for a week. <u>I received it yesterday</u>.
.....

2 My fiancé is looking forward to their visit. <u>They haven't met him</u>.
.....

3 Naturally, my parents want to meet my fiancé. <u>His parents want to meet mine</u>.
.....

4 My mother is also planning to visit Scotland. <u>She was born there</u>.
.....

5 She wants to go in August. <u>The heather blooms then</u>.
.....

53b Complete the article. Use relative pronouns.

Lacrosse, (0) ***which*** was invented by the Native North Americans, is widely considered to be the first real American sport. However, the game has changed drastically since the fifteenth century, (1) ..... it was first played.

In early versions of the game, each team could have 100 to 1000 players, (2) ..... played on an enormous field. Players threw balls, (3) ..... could be made from deerskin, clay, stone or wood, at a tree or rock to gain points. Lacrosse games, (4) ..... could last for days, were used to settle arguments between tribes and to prepare young men for war. Players sometimes killed or injured members of the other team, (5) ..... they would attack in order to score a goal more easily.

In the nineteenth century, (6) ..... lacrosse had become less violent, French Canadians started to play the game. Today lacrosse is the fastest growing sport in the United States and is popular throughout Canada, (7) ..... it is the official summer sport. Balls are now made of rubber and there are ten players in a team, not hundreds. But lacrosse is still dangerous and players have to wear special protective clothing.

53c Join the sentences. Use the words in brackets.

0 J.K. Rowling is the creator of Harry Potter. She worked as an English teacher. (who)
J.K. Rowling, who worked as an English teacher, is the creator of Harry Potter.

1 Pablo Picasso suffered from dyslexia. His paintings are some of the most famous in the world. (whose)
.....

2 William Shakespeare is considered to be one of the greatest playwrights of all time. He wrote about thirty-seven plays. (who)
.....

3 Muhammed Ali won the world heavyweight boxing title in 1964. He defeated Sonny Liston that year. (when)
.....

4 In the 1980s Brad Pitt moved to Los Angeles. He took acting classes and worked as a chauffeur there. (where)
.....

5 Cleopatra is one of the most famous rulers in history. She married two of her brothers. (who)
.....

6 Bill Clinton was the forty-second President of the United States. His father died three months before he was born. (whose)
.....

7 Although he was born in Bonn, Ludwig van Beethoven moved to Vienna in 1792. He soon established a reputation there as a piano virtuoso. (where)
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS