

Describing Cities with Relative Clauses

Medellin is a vibrant city that has undergone a remarkable transformation in recent decades. **It is located in a valley that is surrounded by mountains, which gives it a pleasant climate all year round. The metro system, which is one of the most modern in Latin America, connects different parts of the city efficiently.**

One of the most famous places is Comuna 13, which used to be one of the most dangerous neighborhoods, but is now a symbol of innovation and resilience. Tourists often visit the cable cars that offer breathtaking views of the city, especially at sunset. The Botanical Garden, which is home to a wide variety of plants and animals, is another popular attraction. Medellin is a city where culture, history, and modernity coexist, making it an attractive destination for visitors.



Grammar Focus

Defining Relative Clauses:

- Give essential information about a noun.
- No commas are used.
- Common pronouns: who, which, that, where, when.

Example:

- The metro **that** connects the city is very efficient.
- The neighborhoods **that** have improved in recent years are attracting more tourists.
- The restaurant **that** serves traditional food is always crowded.
- The areas **where** people feel safe at night are usually more expensive.

Non-defining Relative Clauses:

- Give extra (non-essential) information.
- Use commas.
- Cannot use 'that'.

Example:

- The metro, **which is very modern**, is efficient.
- The main square, **which is located in the city center**, is full of street performers.
- The metro system, **which is very affordable**, is used by thousands of people every day.
- Cartagena, **which is famous for its colonial architecture**, attracts visitors from all over the world.

Practice Activities

Exercise 1: Identify the type (D or ND)

1. Medellín is a city that attracts many tourists. _____
2. The Botanical Garden, which is very large, is free to enter. _____
3. The neighborhoods that are safer now receive many visitors. _____
4. The metro, which was built in 1995, is very clean. _____
5. The places that tourists visit most are very colorful. _____

Exercise 2: Choose the correct option

1. The museum ___ is located downtown is very popular.
a) which b) that c) where
2. Medellín, ___ is known as the "City of Eternal Spring," has great weather.
a) that b) which c) where
3. The park ___ people relax on weekends is very beautiful.
a) where b) which c) that
4. The cable cars, ___ connect the hills, are very useful.
a) that b) which c) where

Exercise 3: Combine the sentences

1. Medellín has many parks. They are very green.
→ _____
2. Comuna 13 is very famous. It has colorful street art.
→ _____
3. The metro is efficient. It connects the whole city.
→ _____
4. The Botanical Garden is popular. It has exotic plants.
→ _____

Exercise 4: Complete with a relative pronoun

(who / which / that / where)

1. Medellín is a city _____ many tourists want to visit.
2. The places _____ are most visited are very vibrant.
3. The park _____ you can relax is very quiet.
4. The guide _____ showed us the city was very friendly.