

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

RELATIVE CLAUSES 1 - DEFINING -

A clause is a part of a sentence. A relative clause tells us which person or thing (or what kind of person or thing) the speaker means.

The man who lives next door is very friendly.

Relative Clause

The man **who lives next door**... (Who lives next door tells us which man)

RELATIVE CLAUSES 2

- The man who lives in next door is very friendly.
- Where are the eggs which were in the fridge?

In these sentences who and which are subject of the verbs in the relative clauses.

The man lives in next door. He is very friendly.

Where are the eggs? They were in the fridge



YOU CANNOT LEAVE OUT WHO or WHICH IN THESE SENTENCES

Sometimes **who** and **which** are objects of the verbs.

The man - I wanted to see him - was away on holiday.

The man who I wanted to see was away on holiday.

Have you found the keys? - You lost them.

Have you found the keys that you lost?



WHEN WHO or WHICH ARE OBJECTS OF THE VERB IN THE RELATIVE CLAUSE, YOU CAN LEAVE THEM OUT.

- The man I wanted to see was away on holiday.
- The dress Ann bought doesn't fit her very well.
- Is there anything I can do?

PREPOSITIONS IN RELATIVES

Do you know the girl? - Tom is talking **to** her.

- Do you know the girl (who) Tom is talking **to**?
- The bed - I slept **in** it last night - wasn't very comfortable.
- The bed I slept **in** last night wasn't very comfortable.

WHO / THAT for PEOPLE

- We know a lot of people. **They** live in London.
- We know a lot of people **who** live in London.

WHICH / THAT for THINGS

- I don't like stories. **They** have unhappy endings.
- I don't like the stories **that** have unhappy endings.
- Where are the eggs? **They** were in the fridge.
- Where are the eggs **which** were in the fridge?

WHOSE for HIS /HER /THEIR

- We saw some people - **their** car had broken down.
- We saw some people **whose** car had broken down.

WHERE for PLACES

- The hotel - we stayed **there** - wasn't very clean.
- The hotel **where** we stayed wasn't very clean.

WHEN for TIME

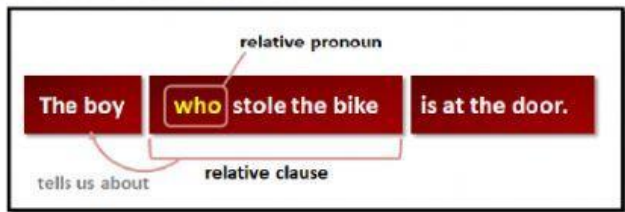
- Yesterday was a terrible day. **Yesterday** everything went wrong!
- Yesterday was a terrible day. **When** everything went wrong!

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES are subordinate clauses which are **essential** to the meaning of the sentence. We do **not** use **commas** to separate them from the main clause.

The relative pronouns use in defining relative clauses are: **who, which, that, whose, when, where, whom**



DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES



Complete the sentences with relative pronouns: *who, which, where, when* and *whose*.

- The cook _____ made the pasta was Italian.
- I read a book _____ explained how to make films.
- This is the hospital _____ I was born.
- Summer is the season _____ I go on holiday.
- He is the boy _____ I told you about!
- There's an article in today's newspaper about the boy _____ father works with mine.
- The girl _____ is reading the article seems surprised.
- It talks about the jewels _____ were stolen from the museum yesterday night.
- The policemen _____ were investigating the case questioned many suspects.
- Friday was the day _____ the jewels were stolen.
- The jewels _____ the thief stole were very valuable.

II.- Join each sentence to the correct ending, using *who, which, where* and *whose*.

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1) He's the player _____ | a) _____ I saw the dress. |
| 2) Apollo was the spaceship _____ | b) _____ took man to the moon. |
| 3) We went to the shop _____ | c) _____ was Number One, was a really slow song. |
| 4) The girl _____ | d) _____ scored the goal. |
| 5) Her last single, _____ | e) _____ arm was broken is a friend of mine. |

III.- Join the sentences. use relative pronouns.

- I sent an email to my brother. My brother lives in Australia.
I sent an email to my brother **who** lives in Australia.
- This is the garden. He usually walks his dog here.
- I dropped a glass. The glass was new.
- She loves books. The books have happy endings.
- They live in a city. The city is in the north of England.
- That was the day. That day my sister was born.
- My sister has three children. My sister lives in Australia.
- The waiter was rude. The waiter was wearing a blue shirt.
- The money is in the kitchen. The money belongs to John.
- The table got broken. The table was my grandmother's.