

Prepositions in Adjective Clauses

When you change a sentence that has a **separable phrasal verb** and **object** (verb + preposition + object) into an **adjective clause**, you can keep the verb and preposition together, **or** you can put the preposition with the relative pronoun that starts the adjective clause.

For people: The **teacher** gave me good advice. I **spoke to her** yesterday.
The **teacher** **whom** I **spoke to** yesterday gave me good advice.
The **teacher** **who** I **spoke to** yesterday gave me good advice.
The **teacher** **that** I **spoke to** yesterday gave me good advice.
The **teacher** **ø** I **spoke to** yesterday gave me good advice.

OR

The **teacher** **to whom** I **spoke** yesterday gave me good advice.

Notice that **if** you put the **preposition before** the **relative pronoun** and you are referring to a **person**, you can only use "whom", **not** *to who or to that or to nothing*.

For things: The **bag** was empty. She **looked in it**.
The **bag** **which** she **looked in** was empty.
The **bag** **that** she **looked in** was empty.
The **bag** **ø** she **looked in** was empty.

OR

The **bag** **in which** she **looked** was empty.

Notice that **if** you put the **preposition before** the **relative pronoun** and you are referring to a **thing**, you can only use "which", **not** *in that or in nothing*.

Now you try. Add a relative pronoun and preposition to each sentence below.

1. The bus was late. We were waiting for it.

The bus _____ we were waiting _____ was an hour late.

The bus _____ we were waiting _____ was an hour late.

The bus _____ we were waiting _____ was an hour late.

The bus _____ we were waiting _____ was an hour late.

2. The man was very angry. Maria was arguing with him.

The man _____ Maria was arguing _____ was very angry.

The man _____ Maria was arguing _____ was very angry.

The man _____ Maria was arguing _____ was very angry.

The man _____ Maria was arguing _____ was very angry.

The man _____ Maria was arguing _____ was very angry.