

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.