

Relative Clauses

What is a relative clause?

A relative clause is a type of dependent clause that provides additional information about a noun. It usually begins with a relative pronoun such as who, whom, whose, which, or that.

Examples:

- **Commas:**

Example: My brother, who lives in Paris, is visiting next week.

- **Parentheses:**

Example: The new restaurant (which opened last month) has excellent reviews.

- **Dashes:**

Example: The old castle - which dates back to the 14th century - attracts thousands of tourists each year.

Activity 1: Which sentence has used a relative clause correctly?

1. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) My sister who lives in Boston sent me a package.
- B) My sister, who lives in Boston, sent me a package.
- C) My sister, who lives in Boston sent me a package.
- D) My sister who lives in Boston, sent me a package.

2. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) The car which I bought last year, needs repairs.
- B) The car, which I bought last year needs repairs.
- C) The car (which I bought last year) needs repairs.
- D) The car which, I bought last year, needs repairs.

3. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) The ancient manuscript - which dates back to the 15th century - was discovered in a monastery.
- B) The ancient manuscript - which dates back to the 15th century, was discovered in a monastery.
- C) The ancient manuscript which dates back to the 15th century - was discovered in a monastery.
- D) The ancient manuscript - which dates back to the 15th century was - discovered in a monastery.

4. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) Teachers who love their job deserve recognition.
- B) Teachers, who love their job, deserve recognition.
- C) Teachers (who love their job deserve recognition).
- D) Teachers who, love their job, deserve recognition.

5. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) My uncle that lives abroad, sends me souvenirs.
- B) My uncle, that lives abroad sends me souvenirs.
- C) My uncle that, lives abroad, sends me souvenirs.
- D) My uncle, that lives abroad, sends me souvenirs.

6. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) The CEO - whom everyone respects - made an important announcement.
- B) The CEO - whom everyone respects, made an important announcement.
- C) The CEO whom - everyone respects - made an important announcement.
- D) The CEO whom everyone respects - made an important announcement.

7. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) The book (which was recommended by my teacher) became a bestseller.
- B) The book which was recommended by my teacher) became a bestseller.
- C) The book (which was recommended by my teacher became a bestseller.
- D) The book (which was recommended by my teacher, became a bestseller.

8. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A) The house, that I grew up in was recently sold.
- B) The house that I grew up in was recently sold.
- C) The house, that I grew up in, was recently sold.
- D) The house that, I grew up in, was recently sold.

Activity 2: Add your own relative clause

1. The **museum**, _____, was crowded with visitors.
2. My **cousin**, _____, is coming to stay with us next week.
3. The **cake** (_____) disappeared quickly at the party.
4. The **dog** - _____ - barked all night long.
5. The **books**, _____, need to be returned to the library.
6. The **mountain**, _____, attracts thousands of tourists every year.
7. The **computer** (_____) crashed during the presentation.
8. The **athlete** - _____ -won three gold medals at the Olympics.
9. The **restaurant** (_____) has excellent reviews.
10. My **neighbor**, _____, helped me carry my groceries.