

12A Defining relative clauses

We use relative clauses to say which person, thing or place we are talking about.

*He's the actor **who** was Sherlock Holmes on TV.*

*It's a machine **which** makes bread.*

*That's the restaurant **where** I used to work.*

We use the relative pronouns *who* or *that* to talk about people.

*The man **who** sits next to me at work was ill today.*

*I saw the woman **that** works in the post office in the park.*

We use the relative pronouns *which* or *that* to talk about things.

*There are companies **which** organize weddings for people.*

*Luigi enjoys films **that** make him laugh.*

We use *where* to talk about places.

*I want to visit the stadium **where** Manchester United play football.*

*Jorge works in the hospital **where** I was born.*



12.2

defining relative clauses

To describe people	He's the teacher who taught me English. Did you see the children that were singing?
To describe things	That's the dog which bit me on the leg. I don't want a car that has a big engine.
To describe places	I'll meet you in the square where we met last time.

Look! *Who, which, that* and *where* refer to a person, thing or place that's already been mentioned, so we don't need to use another word again.

*Snakes are the animals **which** they kill most people each year.*

*I'd prefer to see the doctor **who** she saw me last time.*

*Ronald went to the cinema **where** we saw the Star Wars film **there**.*

1 A Complete the sentences with *who*, *which* or *where*.

- Did you get the email _____ I sent you yesterday?
- This is the nightclub _____ Nicola met her boyfriend.
- There's a meeting at 2.00 p.m. for all employees _____ work in the Sales Department.
- The office _____ she spends most of her time is in Kuala Lumpur.
- The person _____ started this company is now a millionaire.
- My father-in-law doesn't like films _____ are too violent.

B In which sentences could you also use *that*?

2 Add the correct words: *who*, *which*, or *where*. Then match the halves to make sentences.

- An umbrella is something which f
 - A DJ is someone _____
 - A hospital is a place _____
 - A credit card is something _____
 - An enemy is a person _____
 - A passport is a document _____
 - A department store is somewhere _____
 - A selfie stick is something _____
 - A single parent is someone _____
 - A prison is a place _____
- a you go when you're ill.
b you use when you travel abroad.
c you use to take a photo of yourself.
d brings up a child without a partner.
e criminals are sent.
~~f you use when it rains.~~
g plays music in a club or on the radio.
h you can buy lots of different things.
i someone hates.
j you use instead of cash to buy things.

3 Combine the pairs of sentences using *who*, *which*, *that* or *where*. Remember not to use words that aren't necessary.

- That's the restaurant. We're going there tonight.
*That's the restaurant **where** we're going tonight.*
- I know the man. He lives in that house.

- Did you enjoy the film? You watched it last night.

- They're the neighbours. They have lots of parties.

- We've booked a holiday in the hotel. We stayed there last summer.

- My sister-in-law works for a company. It develops apps.
