THE IDEAL TEACHER

What makes a great teacher?

An ideal teacher is **someone who makes** lessons interesting and creates a classroom where students feel safe. I admire **teachers who explain** difficult ideas clearly and **who are patient** when learners make mistakes. **I like it when a teacher uses** real-life examples, because they help me understand how English works outside the classroom**. It makes me happy when teachers notice** students' progress and encourage them to keep trying. However, **I get annoyed when** a **teacher who is always speaking** gives students no chance to participate, or when lessons are too repetitive. I'm interested **in teachers who are creative and who use** technology in meaningful ways. The teaching profession is rewarding because teachers can influence people's lives, but it can also be demanding. Unlike some jobs, teaching requires constant preparation, flexibility, and emotional energy. **I think a good teacher is a person who inspires** students, not just **someone who knows** a lot about a subject.

A. Relative pronouns: who / that

Use who or that to describe people.

- Subject of the clause: who/that + verb
  A teacher who/that explains clearly is helpful.
  I like teachers who/that are patient.

- Object of the clause: who/that + subject + verb
  I want a teacher who/that I can talk to.
  She is someone who/that students respect.

B. It-clauses + when

Use it + verb/adjective + when + subject + verb to express a reaction to a situation.

- I like it when my teacher gives examples.
- It makes me happy when students improve.
- It annoys me when lessons are confusing.

Common expressions: I like it when… / I love it when… / It makes me happy when… / It bothers me when… / It's important when…

Remember

Who/that refers to a person. In subject clauses, it comes before the verb. In object clauses, it comes before the subject + verb. After when, use a complete clause (subject + verb).

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Exercise 1. Choose who or that. (Subject or object relative clauses)

1. An ideal teacher is someone _____ listens to students.
2. I admire teachers _____ explain grammar with simple examples.
3. I need a teacher _____ I can ask questions freely.
4. Students enjoy lessons _____ are practical and engaging.
5. A teacher is a person _____ students can trust.
6. I prefer instructors _____ give feedback respectfully.

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. I like teachers who/that _____.
2. I want a teacher who/that I _____.
3. The teaching profession is a career that _____.
4. A teacher who/that inspires me _____.

Exercise 3. Complete each sentence with it…when / I like it when / It makes me…when.

1. _____ my teacher uses videos or real-life examples.
2. _____ students ask questions during the lesson.
3. _____ a teacher gives clear instructions.
4. _____ students do not participate.
5. _____ I understand a difficult topic.

Exercise 4. Combine the sentences using who or that.

1. A great teacher is patient. A great teacher encourages students.
   A great teacher is someone _____.
2. I admire teachers. They make learning fun.
   I admire teachers _____.
3. I want a teacher. I can talk to the teacher about my difficulties.
   I want a teacher _____.
4. She is an instructor. Many students respect her.
   She is an instructor _____.

Exercise 5. Think and Share

Describe your ideal teacher. Mention what interests or annoys you about them. Then share your thoughts about the teaching profession and compare it with another profession. Use at least 3 relative clauses (who/that) and 3 expressions with it…when.

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