



Relative clauses exercises

In this exercise you have to explain what some words mean. Choose the right meaning from the list and then write a sentence with who. Use a dictionary if necessary.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| he/she steals from a shop | he/she breaks into a house and steals things |
| he/she doesn't eat meat | he/she doesn't drink alcohol |
| he/she designs buildings | he/she buys something from a shop |

- 1 (an architect) An architect is someone who designs buildings.
- 2 (a burglar) A burglar is someone
- 3 (a vegetarian) A vegetarian
- 4 (a customer)
- 5 (a shoplifter)
- 6 (a teetotaller)

Now you have to read two sentences and then write one sentence with the same meaning. Use a relative clause in your sentence.

Example: A girl was injured in the accident. She is now in hospital.
The girl who was injured in the accident is now in hospital.

- 1 A man answered the phone. He told me you were out.
The man
- 2 A waitress served us. She was very impolite and impatient.
The
- 3 Some boys were arrested. They have now been released.
The boys

The sentences in this exercise are not complete. Choose the most suitable ending from the list and make it into a relative clause.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| he invented the telephone | it makes typewriters |
| she runs away from home | it gives you the meanings of words |
| they are never on time | it won the race |
| they stole my car | it can support life |
| they used to hang on that wall | it was found last week |

- 1 Gerry works for a company that (or which) makes typewriters.
- 2 The book is about a girl
- 3 What was the name of the horse
- 4 The police have caught the men
- 5 Alexander Bell was the man
- 6 Where are the pictures
- 7 The police are still trying to identify the body
- 8 A dictionary is a book
- 9 I don't like people
- 10 It seems that Earth is the only planet



The sentences in this exercise are not complete. Complete each one with a relative clause. Use the sentences in the box to make your relative clauses.

we met her yesterday	we wanted to visit it	Tom tells them
Tom recommended it	we had it for dinner	you lost them
Ann is wearing it	the police arrested him	I invited them to the party

- 1 Have you found the keys you lost
- 2 I like the dress
- 3 The museum was shut when we got there.
- 4 Most of the people couldn't come.
- 5 I didn't like that woman
- 6 The fish was really delicious.
- 7 We stayed at a hotel
- 8 The stories are usually very funny.
- 9 The man has now been released.

This time you have to make a relative clause with a preposition.

you were with her last night	I am living in it	I slept in it
they were talking about them	she is married to him	I work with them
we wanted to travel on it	I applied for it	we went to it

- 1 The bed I slept in was too soft.
- 2 I didn't get the job
- 3 The man has been married twice before.
- 4 The party wasn't very enjoyable.
- 5 Who was that girl
- 6 The flight was fully booked.
- 7 I enjoy my job because I like the people
- 8 I wasn't interested in the things
- 9 The house is not in very good condition.

Complete these sentences, where necessary, with **that**, **who** or **what**. If it is possible to write **that** or leave it out, write (**that**) – in brackets.

Examples: Did you hear ... what ... I said? Everything ... (that) ... he said was true.

- 1 She gives her children everything they want.
- 2 Tell me you want and I'll try to help you.
- 3 Why do you blame me for everything goes wrong?
- 4 I won't be able to do very much but I'll do the best I can.
- 5 I can't lend you any money. All I've got is a pound.
- 6 Nora is the only person understands me.
- 7 Why do you always disagree with everything I say?
- 8 I don't agree with you've just said.
- 9 This is an awful film. It's the worst I've ever seen.



You were on holiday with a friend of yours. You met some people who had some bad experiences during their holiday. You met:

- 1 some people / their car broke down
- 2 a man / his wife became ill and was taken to hospital
- 3 a woman / her husband was arrested by the police
- 4 a girl / her passport was stolen
- 5 a couple / their luggage disappeared

You can't remember the names of these people, so you ask your friend. Make sentences with whose.

- 1 What was the name of the people whose car broke down
- 2 What was the name of the man
- 3 What
- 4
- 5

The sentences in this exercise are not complete. You have to complete them with where Use the sentences in the box to make your relative clauses.

I can buy postcards there	I was born there
she had bought it there	we spent our holidays there
people are buried there	we can have a really good meal there

- 1 I recently went back to the town where I was born
- 2 The dress didn't fit her, so she took it back to the shop
- 3 Do you know a restaurant
- 4 Is there a shop near here
- 5 The place was really beautiful.
- 6 A cemetery is a place

Again you have to complete the sentences with a relative clause. Use the sentences in the box to make your relative clauses.

(her) dog bit me	they haven't got a car (for this reason)
John is staying (there)	I didn't write to you (for this reason)
we first met (on that day)	the Second World War ended (in that year)
(his/her) parents are dead	you telephoned (that evening)

- 1 Do you remember the day (that) we first met
- 2 An orphan is a child
- 3 The reason was that I didn't know your address.
- 4 Unfortunately I wasn't at home the evening
- 5 I protested to the woman
- 6 The reason is that they can't afford one.
- 7 Do you know the name of the hotel
- 8 1945 was the year



Underline the correct word in each sentence.

- a) An old man, who/which was carrying a suitcase, knocked at the door.
- b) The winner, which/whose bike was an unusual design, won a medal.
- c) The girl who/which spoke to me turned out to be in my class.
- d) The museum, which/whose was in a beautiful building, was closed.
- e) A policewoman that/which we asked told us how to get there.
- f) The boy whose/whom house I was staying at was an old friend.
- g) The last person which/whose pen I borrowed didn't get it back.

Complete each sentence with *who*, *whose* or *that*.

- a) The friend ... whose house I stayed in is coming to stay with us.
- b) The guidebook we bought explained everything.
- c) The couple house I bought both worked in my office.
- d) I'd like you to tell me you were talking to.
- e) The girl ruler I had borrowed wanted it back.
- f) I can't remember I lent my bike to.
- g) Do you know Catherine works for?

Add a relative pronoun to each sentence.

- a) Friday was the last time I saw Jim.
..... Friday was the last time that I saw Jim.
- b) The island we visited was extremely beautiful.
.....
- c) The girl I met was a friend of Philip's.
.....
- d) The meal we ate wasn't very tasty.
.....
- e) Gina was the first person I asked.
.....
- f) The book I read didn't explain the problem.
.....
- g) The teacher we usually have was away ill.
.....
- h) The friends I met last night send you their love.
.....



**Rewrite each pair of sentences as one sentence, and include the word in bold.
Begin as shown, and make any necessary changes.**

a) We want to visit a museum. It opens at 12.00.

that

The *museum that we want to visit opens at 12.00.*

b) A boy's bike was taken. He visited the police station.

whose

The

c) A friend met me at the airport. He carried my suitcase.

who

The

d) Tom cooked a meal. It was delicious.

that

The

e) A friend is staying with me. She comes from Paris.

who

The

f) I found a man's wallet. He gave me a reward.

whose

The

g) I go to a shop in the centre. It is cheaper.

that

The

h) I went to a girl's party. She phoned me.

whose

The

i) I know someone. This person likes you.

who

I



Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Monica bought a dress | a. who have got a sense of humour. |
| 2. A graphologist is a person | b. where I got my computer |
| 3. That's the girl | c. that are comfortable. |
| 4. I like people | d. who analyses handwriting. |
| 5. I prefer to wear clothes | e. whose cousin lives next door to me. |
| 6. June is the month | f. which cost €120. |

Rewrite the sentences using *who, which, that, where* or *when*. More than one pronoun may be possible.

1. That boy lives next door to me.

That's the boy

2. All my family gets together at Christmas.

Christmas is the time

3. Chris had an accident here.

This is the place

4. I admire Ronaldo.

Ronaldo is a person

5. James enjoys reading interesting books.

James enjoys reading books

6. This is the broken chair.

This is the chair

Are the relative pronouns necessary? Write *Yes* or *No*.

1. The people who live next door are doctors. _____
2. I've just seen the boy who you used to go out with. _____
3. This is an album which I really like. _____
4. This is the hotel that we stayed in. _____
5. He's the teacher who gives us the most work. _____
6. The food that they gave us tasted horrible. _____
7. I like films which are not violent. _____
8. The girl who you said was Italian is Greek. _____
9. Where's the shirt which I bought yesterday? _____
10. She's the woman who teaches us History. _____
11. The photos which I took on holiday are great. _____
12. I need somebody who can help me. _____
13. Was the film which you say interesting? _____
14. Ruth is staying in a place which has got a beach. _____



Join the sentences using a non-defining relative clause.

1. Caitlin is brilliant at maths. She's got an 'A' last year.
2. The shop sells good clothes. It is near the library.
3. The film comes out in December. It stars Keanu Reeves.
4. Paula can snowboard very well. Her dad is a ski instructor.
5. My uncle lives in France. He visits us every year.

Rephrase the sentences beginning as shown.

1. I sent something to you. Did you receive it?

Did you

2. I couldn't buy the book. You recommended it to me.

I

3. My sister didn't want to go to bed. She had been waiting for the party all day.

My sister

4. Pamela has just met the boy. She asked you for his phone number.

Pamela

5. Sarah introduced me to her brother. I was looking forward to meeting him.

Sarah

6. Alex Crivillé has finished second in the World Championship. His team mate Mike Doohan has been his only rival.

Alex

7. The little girl appeared among the bushes. We had been looking for her.

The little

8. Your friend Mike ran over a little girl. She's my neighbour's daughter.

The little girl

9. Uncle George didn't want to come with us. We had taken him to town.

Uncle George

10. Andrew showed me some photographs. I recommended you to see them.

I

11. I have just met the writer. You asked me for her birthplace.

I



12. Mr Álvarez Cascos has just remarried. He is the Vice- President of Spain.

Mr Álvarez

13. Your sister has told me about her wedding. I gave her a lift to the station this morning.

Your sister

14. Someone says you are going to sell the house. You lived there for years.

Someone says

15. The doctor has given me some pills. They will help me to overcome this bad cold I've got.

The pills

16. She didn't have time to buy the drinks. You asked her for them.

She

17. The criminal has finally been arrested. The police found his car near the library.

The criminal.

18. The church was built hundreds of years ago. My best friend got married there.

The church

19. Here comes Michael Springer. I mentioned him to you the other day.

Here comes

20. She was telling me something, but I didn't understand it.

I didn't

21. That is the young lady. Your brother is in love with her.

That is

22. Theresa brought something for me, but I haven't been able to find it.

I haven't

23. I don't know what I have done with the money. You gave it to me.

I don't know

24. My father works in a factory. It is very unhealthy.

The factory

25. The house has just been rebuilt. My grandparents used to live there.

The house

26. You can see a man climbing the garden wall. He has escaped from the asylum.

The man



27. Miguel Gila has now a programme on TV. He is the best representative of absurd humour.

Miguel

28. I met a beautiful girl this morning. She asked me to give you this letter.

A beautiful girl

29. The people had been at a party all evening. Their daughter phoned us for help.

The people

30. Where do you get those nice presents? You buy them for your friends.

Where

31. My next door neighbour has had a car accident. He has been taken to hospital.

My next door neighbour

32. The man is now thought to be guilty. The judges left him free yesterday.

The man

33. I have just been visiting the village. I was born there.

I have

34. Miguel Indurain has decided not to compete any more. He has been the best Spanish cyclist of all times.

Miguel

35. Nobody has ever seen the man. Jennifer gave him some clothes this morning.

Nobody

36. My mother would like to meet the novelist. You bought his latest work last week.

My mother

37. The year was 1996. Some of the most terrible catastrophes happened then.

1996 was

38. The man has just bought his train ticket. He is standing near the exit door.

The man

39. Mum asked you for something. Did you bring it?

Did

40. That is the tree. I picked some apples from it.

That is

41. Here are the parcels. Mr Morgan was looking for them this morning.

Here are



42. I bought a house. It was advertised in the local paper.

I bought a house

43. Mary works in our office. Her husband is a plastic surgeon.

Mary

44. Venice is a wonderful place. We spent our last holiday there.

Venice

45. He showed us how to create a computer-based game. It was very interesting.

He

46. I've just finished reading Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. It is an amazing book.

I've just finished

47. That's the boy. I told you about him last night.

That's the boy

48. They've sold the house. I wanted to buy it.

They've sold

49. Helen has just arrived. She had a car accident.

Helen

50. They've sold the grocery. I used to go shopping there.

They've sold

51. My sister has won a DVD player. Her children love watching films.

My sister

52. There's the lady. Her dog was killed.

There's the lady

53. I have a friend. He's a wonderful skater.

I have a friend

54. The boy broke the window. He ran away.

The boy



Non-help rephrasing exercises.

1. Scrabble is a very enjoyable game. I play Scrabble every weekend.
2. Camilo José Cela died a few months ago. He wrote Viaje a La Alcarria.
3. Vielha is a nice village in the Pyrenees. I usually spend my summer holidays there.
4. He received the parcel. He was waiting for it.
5. Robert Graves wrote I Claudius. He used to live in Majorca.
6. We went to the National Gallery in London. It was fascinating.
7. I remember those days. We were so happy then.
8. She hasn't got anything to do. This makes her angry.
9. Pete has become a singer. You met him last year.
10. Terenci Moix didn't like publicity. His novels were best-sellers.
11. The mountain is 3000 metres high. They climbed it.
12. I was happy to see my friend. He has been living in London for three years.
13. We have visited Tarragona. There are many Roman remains there.
14. He has lost the ring. Everyone admired it.
15. She finally passed the driving test. It made her very happy
16. Do you know the exact date? We are going to meet then.
17. He's the man. They were talking about him.
18. He broke a cup. It was made of Bohemian glass.
19. Jane has been sacked. You met her last Sunday.
20. Michael has been promoted. This made him very happy.



21. The school bell went off unexpectedly. It was repaired last week.
22. She doesn't know the man. We are talking about him.
23. We went to a restaurant. They serve excellent fish there.
24. Mary forgot to post the letters. She's my secretary.
25. Elizabeth George is an excellent writer. Her novels are best-sellers.
26. I forgot to print the article. I wrote it last night.
27. I refused to say anything about it. It was quite sensible.