



RELATIVE/ADJECTIVE CLAUSE



- A relative clause is same as an adjective clause. The name depends on the function fulfilled by the clause.
- A relative clause is called so because it uses a relative pronoun (*that, who, whose, where, why, when*) to link itself to the word/phrase/clause it is describing.
- As a subordinate clause, it modifies/describes the noun, i.e, the subject or the object of a sentence & hence it is also called an adjective clause.



FUNCTIONS OF A RELATIVE CLAUSE



1. Either as the subject or object of the verb.

- As a subject/ object, the clause contains the noun and the essential details/ information regarding the noun, i.e, the adjective phrase/clause
- Uses the relative pronouns *who*, *which*, *that*.
 - * The house which belongs to Julie is in London.
 - * The people who live on the farm are very friendly.
 - * The police arrested a man (who) Jill worked with.
 - * The young girl burned all the letters (that) her lover gave.
- As the subject, the relative pronoun is mandatory in the clause. As the object, the clause may or may not use the relative pronoun.

2. To combine two clauses like a conjunction.

- When two simple sentences are to be combined together, one can use a relative pronoun like a conjunction.

* The music is good. Julie listens to the music.

>> **The music that Julie listens to is good.**

* My brother met a doctor. I used to work with the doctor.

>> **My brother met a doctor who I used to work with.**

* The job is well paid. She applied for the job.

>> **The job that she applied for is well paid.**



TYPES OF RELATIVE CLAUSES



1. Defining Relative Clause

- That which identifies or describes the main noun.
- The clause is integral to the meaning of the sentence.
- Removing a defining clause will affect the meaning of the sentence.

* This is the boy **whose parents are in the army**.

(The clause 'whose parents are in the army' defines which boy is being referred to. If removed, it will affect the meaning of the sentence.)

* This is the dress **which my mother made for me**.

* I like the man **who lives next door**.

2. Non-Defining Relative Clause

- It describes the main noun but its not integral to the meaning of the sentence.
- It only gives an additional information regarding the noun.
- Removing a non- defining clause will not affect the meaning of the sentence.
- Its is usually separated from the rest of the sentence by adding commas/dashes.

* The elephant, **which is the largest of all land animals**, is found in Asia & Africa.

* London, **which is the capital of England**, is a popular tourist destination.

* Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, **who was the 11th President of India**, was one of the most brilliant scientists of the era.

SENTENCE RELATIVES

- Relative clauses usually refer to a single word.
- A relative clause that refers to the idea conveyed by the whole sentence is called a sentence relative.
- They are independent and cannot be considered as adjective clauses.
- Introduced by *whereon*, *whereupon*, *which* etc.
 - * Everybody was impressed by the performance, **which I hadn't expected at all.**
 - * He attained his doctoral degree, **whereupon he was promoted to a new rank.**

‘Wh-’ Relative Pronoun & ‘That’

- ‘That’ is not used to introduce a non defining relative clause.
- The number or case of the antecedent does not affect the form of relative pronoun ‘that’.

In case of ‘who, & ‘whom’, the form changes depending on objective case

- * **The man whom/who you called yesterday, has arrived.**
- * **The man that you called yesterday, has arrived.**

‘Wh-’ Relative Pronoun & ‘That’

- When a relative pronoun is the complement of a preposition, the ‘wh-’ pronoun may come before/ after the preposition.

This is the hill which I dreamt about last night.

This is the hill about which I dreamt last night.

While using ‘That’, it comes before the preposition always.

This is the hill that I dreamt about last night.

- ‘Who’ is preferred to ‘that’ if the antecedent is personal pronoun.

I know the man who came here yesterday.

- ‘Who’ cannot be used in place of ‘that’ in sentences like.

He is no longer the man that he was.

‘Wh-’ Relative Pronoun & ‘That’

- When the antecedent consists of many words, ‘wh-’ relative pronouns are preferred.

I have many friends in the High Ranges, who really care for me.

- That is more commonly used after ‘all’, ‘everything’, ‘anything’ etc.

I know everything that you are saying is a lie.

- The relative pronoun can be omitted if it is in the objective case.

The culprit (that) the police is looking for hanged himself.

