

RELATIVE CLAUSE: Defining vs Non-Defining by Ucar

Olası imla hataları için kusura bakmayın arkadaşlar, canlı derste, arada hızlıca yazdım bazı ek ipuçlarını! 😊

We use **who** in relative clauses for a person. Who is followed by a verb.

We use **whose** in relative clauses instead of his/hers/theirs. Whose is followed by a noun.

We use **where** in relative clauses to talk about a place. Where is followed by a noun or pronoun.

We use **which** (and that) in relative clauses to talk about a thing.

relative clauses: defining and non-defining

defining relative clauses (giving essential information)

- 1 Harper Lee is the woman **who (that)** wrote *To Kill a Mockingbird*.
I'm looking for a book **which (that)** teaches you how to relax.
That's the house **where** I was born.
- 2 Is Frank the man **whose** brother plays for Manchester United?
It's a tree **whose** leaves change colour in autumn.
- 3 I've just had a text from the girl **(who / that)** I met on the flight to Paris.
This is the phone **(which / that)** I bought yesterday.

- We use a defining relative clause (= a relative pronoun + verb phrase) to give essential information about a person, place, or thing.

1 We use the relative pronoun **who** for people, **which** for things / animals, and **where** for places.

- We can use **that** instead of **who** or **which**.

2 We use **whose** to mean 'of who' or 'of which'.

3 In some relative clauses, the verb after **who**, **which**, or **that** has a different subject, e.g. *She's the girl who I met on the train* (the subject of *met* is *I*). In these clauses, **who**, **which**, or **that** can be omitted.
She's the girl I met on the train.

- **where** and **whose** can never be omitted. **NOT** *Is that the woman dog barks?*
- We can't omit **who** / **which** / **that** / **where** if it's the same subject in both clauses. **NOT** *Julia's the woman works in the office with me.*

non-defining relative clauses (giving extra non-essential information)

- This painting, **which** was painted in 1860, is worth millions of pounds. 10.2
Last week I visited my aunt Jane, **who's** nearly 90 years old.
Burford, **where** my grandfather was born, is a beautiful little town.
My neighbour, **whose** son goes to my son's school, has just remarried.

- We use a non-defining relative clause to give extra (often non-essential information) in a sentence. If this clause is omitted, the sentence still makes sense.
This painting, which was painted in 1860, is worth millions of pounds.
- Non-defining relative clauses must go between commas (or a comma and a full stop).
- In these clauses, we **can't** leave out the relative pronoun (**who**, **which**, etc.).
- In these clauses, we **can't** use **that** instead of **who** / **which**.
NOT *This painting, that was painted in 1860, is worth millions of pounds.*



■ I cannot see the man **who** threw the coin.

Defining

"who" links this clause to "man"

■ I do have James Baker, **who** drove the car, on the screen.

Non-Defining

"who" links this clause to "James Baker"
UCAR :)

Defining Clause

Defining Relative Clause adds essential information to the sentence. It helps to identify a specific person or thing from a larger group. **For example,**

The students who do not study will fail the exam.

The accident **that** happened yesterday was the truck driver's fault.

A man stole my wallet. **He** has been arrested. → The man **who** stole my wallet has been arrested.

NOTE: If you remove a defining relative clause from the sentence, the meaning of the sentence changes significantly. Moreover defining relative clause is not separated from the rest of the sentence by commas.

Non-Defining Clause

Non-defining clauses are the opposite of defining clauses. They add additional information to the sentence. Removing a non-defining clause will not change the overall meaning of a sentence. Moreover, they are always set off from the rest of the sentence by commas.

For example,

My aunt, who was born in Paris, lived most of her life overseas.

He is always late, which is a really bad habit.

!!! "**that**" can also be used for people, things, animals. But we do not use "that" if there is a comma or a preposition.

Example: Atatürk, **who** founded the Republic of Turkey, was a great and visionary leader.

NOT: Atatürk, **that** founded the Republic of Turkey, was a great and visionary leader.

Izmir, **which** is my hometown, is the 3rd biggest city of Turkey.

NOT: Izmir, **that** is my hometown, is the 3rd biggest city of Turkey.

*He is wearing **a shirt**. I gave him **that shirt**. → He is wearing the shirt I gave him.*

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

Can you name the country **which / that** is well known for the tango dance?

A SIM card is a piece of plastic inside a mobile phone **which / that** contains information about the mobile's owner.

Scrabble is a board game **which / that** is played by two or four players. It is probably one of the most famous board games.

They live in a house **whose** roof is full of holes. (*whose + Noun*)

- Let's go to a country **where** the sun always shines.
- UCAR's NOTE:
- (*Why "where"...I'll explain the reason in the following pages. Just study this worksheet well.*)

IMPORTANT: In a defining clause, use **that**. In non-defining clauses, use **which**.

How to Use Where in Relative Clauses?

We use **where** in relative clauses to indicate a place.

The corner store, **where** we usually buy our food, was robbed.

This is the place **where** Lady Elizabeth was killed by highwaymen.

Baker Street is the street **where** Sherlock Holmes lived.

Ucar's Note: (Arkadaşlar burada, "which" yerine, "where" kullandık çünkü, sağlamasını alınca, o yan cümlede "there" kullandığımızda anlamda ve gramerde bozulma olmadı. **He lived there.**)

We first met him in London, **where** we lived in the early eighties.

There is a site on the internet **where** you can download Classic movies.

Though he never married her, he built her a house **where** she lived and raised their son.

As seen from the above examples, **where** in a relative clause always refer to a place.

How to Use Which in Relative Clauses?

Which is a relative pronoun. In fact, it is one of the most used relative pronouns in a relative clause. Traditionally, this relative pronoun was used in the formation of non-defining relative clauses. This type of relative clause gives additional information to a sentence.

For example,

The festival, which lasted all day, ended with fireworks.

He has missed his bus, which means he is going to be late.

What is the Difference Between Where and Which in Relative Clauses?

Where is a relative adverb whereas *which* is a relative pronoun. However, we can use both of them to form a relative clause. *Where* in relative clauses always indicate a location whereas *which* can indicate a person or a thing. This is the key difference between where and which in relative clauses. Moreover, *where* can occur in both defining and non-defining relative clause. However, *which* mainly occur in a non-defining relative clause.

| Where vs Which in Relative Clauses | | |
|--|---|---|
| More Information Online WWW.DIFFERENCEBETWEEN.COM | | |
| | Where in Relative Clauses | Which in Relative Clauses |
| DEFINITION | Where is a relative adverb | Which is a relative pronoun |
| INDICATION | Always indicate a location | Can indicate a person or a thing |
| TYPE OF RELATIVE CLAUSE | Can occur in both defining and non-defining relative clauses. | Traditionally occur in non-defining relative clauses. |

“Where vs Which” in Relative Clauses

Where is a relative adverb while *which* is a relative pronoun. The main difference between where and which in relative clauses is that *where* in relative clauses always indicate a location whereas *which* can indicate a person or a thing.

Türkçe Test Tekniği İpucu: “where” ile “which” in farkını, bir Sağlama Metodu ile de doğrulayabilirsiniz. Eğer cümlede “where” yerine, yan cümlede “there” kullanabiliyorsak, o zaman doğru yoldayız. Detaylarını sonra örneklerle anlatırım sevgili arkadaşlar. Ancak şu aşamada bu detay bilgiyi, 1-2 örnekle göstereyim.

Can you name the city ____ Barack Obama was born?

- ☐ who
☐ whose
☒ where (Burada doğru yanıt “where”. Sağlaması için: Barack Obama was born there.)
☐ which

Hilton is a place where I like staying during my trips. (“a place” diyorsa direkt “where”)

Hilton, which is a famous hotel, is expensive.

The dog which I want to buy is a Kangal. (Defining Relative Clause) (Virgül yok, rasgele köpek değil, illa kangal istiyorum ☺)

İzmir, which is my hometown, is a gorgeous city. (Non-Defining Relative Clause)

İzmir is the place where I want to live when I get retired.

Complete with who, which, where, or whose.

- Minneapolis is the city where Prince was born.
- 1 Rob and Corinna, who have twins, often need a babysitter.
 - 2 Downing Street, where the British Prime Minister lives, is in central London.
 - 3 The sandwich which you made me for lunch was delicious.
 - 4 The woman who lived here before us was a writer.
 - 5 David Bowie, whose songs inspired us for nearly 50 years, died in 2016.
 - 6 My computer is a lot faster than the one which I used to have.
 - 7 The Mona Lisa, which has been damaged several times, is now displayed behind glass.
 - 8 Look! That's the woman whose dog bit me last week.
 - 9 On our last holiday we visited Stratford-upon-Avon, where Shakespeare was born.
 - 10 We all went to the match except Angela, who doesn't like football.
 - 11 That man, who you saw at the party was my boyfriend!
 - 12 That's the park where I learned to ride a bike.

b Look at the sentences in a. Tick (✓) the ones where you could use that instead of who / which. Circle the relative pronouns which could be left out.

c Add commas (,) where necessary.

- Caroline, who lives next door to me, is beautiful.
- 1 This is the place where John crashed his car.
 - 2 The castle that we visited yesterday was amazing.
 - 3 Beijing, which is one of the world's biggest cities, has a population of over 25 million.
 - 4 Adele's 25, which was released in 2015, is one of the best-selling albums of the last ten years.
 - 5 These are the shoes which I'm wearing to the wedding tomorrow.
 - 6 Sally and Joe, who got married last year, are expecting their first baby.

Where vs Which ???

Şu videoda işinize yarayabilir: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GQL9X8mp8M>

İPUCU: Arkadaşlar, size 2 ipucu yazayım, bu size Relative Clause alıştırmalarında “where” mi gelecek yoksa “which” mi diye arada kaldığınızda yardımcı olur.

İpucu1: Yan cümlede eğer “there” getirebiliyorsak, ve anlam/gramer bozulmuyorsa, o zaman “where” kullanmalıyız.

- The house where I live is located in Buca. (I live **there**)
- The house is old. It needs to be re-newed. > The house **which** is old needs to be re-newed.

(Burada, yan cümlede eğer “there” getirsek anlam ve gramer bozulur. Ondan burada “where” değil “which” kullandık. Yani şöyle diyemerdik: ~~The house needs to be re-newed **there**.~~)

İPUCU2: “where” olması için tam cümle olması gerekir hemen hemen her örnekte.

(Full Sentence: S + V + O)

Kıyaslayın:

İzmir, which is my hometown, is a gorgeous city.

İzmir is the place **where** I want to live when I get retired.

- 1 - Can you name man ____ was America's first president?
Correct!

- ☐ whose
- ☒ **who**
- ☐ where
- ☐ which

- 2 - Can you name the country ____ was the birthplace of Mozart?
Correct!

- ☐ where
- ☐ who

- ☒ which
- ☐ whose

- 3 - Can you name British singer ____ sang 'I imagine'?
Correct!

- ☐ whose
- ☒ who
- ☐ which
- ☐ where

- 4 - Can you name the basektball team ____ Michael Jordan won 6 NBA titles with?
Correct!

- ☐ where
- ☐ whose
- ☒ which

- 5 - Can you name the country ____ Mount Everest can be found?
Correct!

- ☐ whose
- ☒ where
- ☐ who
- ☐ which

- 6 - Can you name artist ____ famous painting is called 'The Girl with the Pearl Earring'?
Correct!

- ☐ which
- ☐ where
- ☒ whose
- ☐ who

- 7 - Can you name scientist ____ discovered radiation?
Correct!

- ☐ whose
- ☒ who

- ☐ where
- ☐ which

- 8 - Can you name the city ____ Barack Obama was born?
Correct!

- ☐ who
- ☒ where
- ☐ whose
- ☐ which

- 9 - Can you name the actress ____ real name was Norma Jeane?
Correct!

- ☐ where
- ☐ which
- ☐ who
- ☒ whose

- 10 - Can you name the country ____ is well known for the tango dance?
Correct!

- ☒ which
- ☐ whose
- ☐ where
- ☐ who

SUMMARY:

Relative pronouns

The following relative pronouns are used in defining relative clauses. These relative pronouns appear at the start of the defining relative clause and refer to a noun that appears earlier in the sentence.

| | Person | Thing | Place | Time | Reason |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------|------|--------|
| Subject | who/that | which/that | | | |
| Object | who/whom/that | which/that | where | when | why |
| Possessive | whose | whose | | | |

Replacing with "that" in spoken English

The pronouns *who*, *whom*, and *which* are often replaced by *that* in spoken English. *Whom* is very formal and is only used in written English. You can use *who* or *that* instead, or omit the pronoun completely. In the examples below, the common usage is given with the defining relative clause highlighted. The pronoun that would be used in more formal written English instead of *that* is given in parentheses.

Examples

- The dish **that I ordered** was delicious. (which)
- The man **that came with her** has already left. (who)
- The doctor **that I was hoping to see** wasn't on duty. (whom)