



# Compound Relative Pronouns

Grammar > Advanced 7



## Exercise 1 – Learning

'Whoever/whatever/whichever/whenever/wherever/however' are called **compound relative pronouns**.

They can be used as subjects, objects and adverbs, or as conjunctions to join a clause (partial sentence) to the rest of the sentence.

Adding '**-ever**' to question words changes their meaning to "it doesn't matter how/what/which/when/where/who".

**who** + '**-ever**' = **whoever** (it doesn't matter who)

**what** + '**-ever**' = **whatever** (it doesn't matter what)

**which** + '**-ever**' = **whichever** (it doesn't matter which one)

**when** + '**-ever**' = **whenever** (it doesn't matter when)

**where** + '**-ever**' = **wherever** (it doesn't matter where)

**how** + '**-ever**' = **however** (it doesn't matter how/in what way)



### Whoever - any person

- Who should I invite to my birthday party?
- You can invite **whoever** you want. (*object of action 'invite'*)

**Tip: 'Whoever'** can also be used as a subject, when the identity of the subject is not important or unknown. For example, if you say, "**Whoever** left their dog at the park is very irresponsible!", you are saying that the person who left their dog is very irresponsible.

### Whatever - any thing (unlimited choices)

- What should I do today?
- Do **whatever** you feel like. (*object of action 'do'*)

### Whichever - any one from a limited set

- Which book should I choose?
- Choose **whichever** you prefer. (*object of action 'choose'*)



### Whenever - any time

- When should I come to your place?
- Come **whenever** you are ready. (*adverb that modifies 'come'*)

### Wherever - any place

- Where should I live?
- You can live **wherever** you like. (*adverb that modifies 'live'*)

### However - in any way

- How should I do your hair?
- You can do it **however** you want. (*adverb modifying 'do'*)



## Exercise 2 – Fill in the Blanks

*Fill in the blanks with whoever, whatever, whichever, whenever, wherever, or however.*

1. Tell \_\_\_\_\_ comes to go away.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I go, I bring my dog.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I travel, I bring my dog.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ much he exercises, he is still overweight.
5. Here are two books. \_\_\_\_\_ one you choose, you are sure to like it.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I ate last night really upset my stomach. I'm still throwing up.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ long it takes, I will climb Mt. Everest.
8. Here is a red pen and a black pen. Take \_\_\_\_\_ one you need.



## Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

*Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.*

**Example:** invite, whoever. → I can invite whoever I want.

### Content:

1. eat, whatever.
2. put, whichever.
3. travel, whenever.
4. go, wherever.
5. decorate, however.
6. give, whoever.