

## RELATIVE CLAUSES & WORD FAMILIES

### **Objectives**

When you have finished this section, you will be able to

- use relative clauses in order to present sentence variety;
- write complex sentences;
- avoid repetition;
- recognize and utilize word families .

### **Resource List**

- 1) Introduction and usage in defining clauses:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/645/01/>
- 2) Relative pronouns in non-defining clauses:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/645/02/>
- 3) Defining and non-defining clauses, and ESL Tips:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/645/03/>
- 4) Academic Word Lists:  
<http://www.uefap.com/vocab/select/awl.htm>  
[http://www.lex tutor.ca/tests/levels/recognition/2\\_10k/](http://www.lex tutor.ca/tests/levels/recognition/2_10k/)

### **Key Concepts**

- Relative clauses
- Defining clauses
- Non-defining clauses
- Relative pronouns
- Word families

### **Procedure**

This section can be completed during E-learning week..

Complete **Tasks A to D**

The answers for each task are provided at the end of the unit except for **A3** and **B3** which will be checked in the first class the following week.

## Tasks

### A. Relative Clauses

In order to avoid writing numerous short sentences with repeated vocabulary, more accomplished writers use relative clauses.

Relative clauses formed with relative pronouns. The most common relative pronouns are *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *which*, and *that*.)

Look at this example.

*Globalisation is a recent phenomenon. Globalisation affects almost every country in the world.*

The use of relative clauses results in longer complex sentences without repetition, as well as text restructuring. The two simple sentences above, when combined, become:

*Globalisation, **which** affects almost every country in the world, is a recent phenomenon.*

### A1 Recognising types of relative clauses

Look at the sentences in **Table 1** and answer the questions that follow.

**Table 1: Clause Guide**

1. Joseph Stiglitz is an author	who	is a leading critic of globalization.
2. Globalization is the process of international integration	that which	has arisen from the interchange of world views, products, ideas, and other aspects of culture.
3. Joseph Stiglitz is an author	Ø that who whom	many people respect because he used to be the Chief Economist at the World Bank.
4. Globalization is the process of international integration	Ø That which	the interchange of world views, products, ideas, and other aspects of culture has caused.
5. Bermuda is a country	whose	economy is based on it being a tax haven.
6. A tax haven is a place	where	taxes are levied at a low rate, if at all.
7. Anthony Giddens,	who	wrote <i>The Consequences of Modernity</i> , defines globalization as <i>the intensification of worldwide social relations</i> .
8. The four basic aspects of globalization,	which	were identified by the International Monetary Fund in 2000, are trade and transactions, capital and investment movements, migration, and the dissemination of knowledge.

(a) Can you work out when the zero ( Ø ) relative pronouns can be used?

- (b) What do you notice about sentences 5 and 6?
- (c) How are sentences 7 and 8 different from the first six?

Read **Tables 2 & 3** to check your answers.

**Table 2: Two types of relative clauses – Defining and Non-defining**

<b>Defining</b>	<b>Non-defining</b>
Gives essential information	Gives extra information
No commas	2 commas (or a comma and a full stop)
Who, which, where, whom, whose, that, ø	Who, which, where, whom, whose
The relative pronoun as the object of a relative clause can be omitted	The relative pronoun cannot be omitted
Spoken and written	Written

**Table 3: Defining Clauses – Subject or Object**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Object</b>
<b>People</b> – Who, that	<b>People</b> – Who, that, whom, ø, whose (can't be omitted)
<b>Things</b> – Which, that	<b>Things</b> – Which, that, ø where, when (can't be omitted)
A <b>verb</b> follows the relative pronoun	A <b>(pro)noun</b> comes between the relative pronoun and the verb

## **A2 Working with Relative Pronouns**

Read **Article 1** below and take note of the **relative pronouns**. As you encounter the pronouns, ask yourself these questions:

- (a) Can any of these words be replaced by a different relative pronoun?
- (b) Which are non-defining?

## Article 1

### **UN must challenge Canada's complicity in mining's human rights abuses: Canada is due for review at the UN human rights council – abuses by its mining companies must not be overlooked**

1) Canada is scheduled for its universal periodic review (UPR) at the UN human rights council on 26 April. The UPR is an international mechanism established in 2006 to hold governments accountable for their human rights records. According to Ban Ki-moon, the review has the potential "to promote and protect human rights in the darkest corners of the world".

2) When Canada stands before the UN to have its "darkest corners" examined, the international community must not turn a blind eye to its complicity with a global mining industry **whose** corporations are among the worst human rights and environmental offenders in the world.

3) The abuses by Canadian mining companies are a systemic part of an economic development policy **that** disregards human rights and disdains the environment. This helps to explain why Canada is now home to 75% of the world's mining companies, the majority operating overseas. The Canadian government has accelerated its pursuit of investment treaties in the global south to serve the interests of the extractive industry. These treaties allow companies to challenge environmental, public health or other resource-related policies that affect mining profits.

4) At the same time, Canada allows its corporations to benefit from a climate of impunity, offering no legal recourse for adversely impacted communities and demanding no accountability in exchange for generous public subsidies, as the EU and other jurisdictions do. These conditions have made Canada a haven for the global mining industry.

5) Canadian mining companies are operating at the heart of violent conflicts around the world. Although the industry often claims the violence is localised and specific, there is an unmistakable pattern of social conflict surrounding mining projects. Anti-mining activists are being brutally attacked and killed for voicing their opposition to mega-mining project in communities throughout the global south. Yet impacted communities have been unsuccessful in bringing their cases to Canadian courts.

6) Last year, a Québec court of appeal rejected a suit by citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Congo against Montreal-based Anvil Mining Limited for allegedly providing logistical support to the DRC army as it carried out a massacre, killing as many as 100 people in the town of Kilwa near the company's silver and copper mine. The supreme court of Canada later confirmed that Canadian courts had no jurisdiction over the company's actions in the DRC and it rejected the plaintiffs' request to appeal. Kairos Canada, thought the the supreme court's ruling would "have broader implications for other victims of human rights abuses committed by Canadian companies and their chances of bringing similar cases to our courts".

7) In an increasingly water-hungry world, much of the community resistance to Canadian mining has been in defence of local water supplies. Mining projects require tremendous amounts of water and employ methods **that** contaminate precious water resources. A recent report by Earthworks and MiningWatch Canada found that 180 million tonnes of hazardous mine waste was being dumped every year into lakes, rivers and oceans worldwide.

8) In El Salvador, **where** more than 60% of the population relies on a single source of water, this means choosing between drinking water and mining. In 2009, after immense public pressure, the country chose water. It established a moratorium on metal mining permits. Polls show that a strong majority of Salvadorans would now like a permanent ban.

9) In Chile, after community resistance to a massive silver-gold project by Canadian mining giant Barrick Gold, an appeals court recently ordered a suspension of operations as the project was polluting surface and groundwater in the Atacama desert, one of the driest regions in the world.

10) Yet, in a globalised world, these victories are precarious. Even if corporations are found in violation of domestic laws, or if communities reject destructive resource projects, mining companies are able to use bilateral investment treaties to plough ahead, or to demand compensation for "lost" profit.

11) Vancouver-based Pacific Rim, **which** describes itself on its website as "an environmentally and socially responsible exploration company **whose** business plans and management talent focus on high grade, environmentally clean gold deposits in the Americas", is suing El Salvador through a World Bank trade tribunal for \$315m (£207m) for refusing permits for a gold mine in the Department of Cabanas.

12) Canada is pursuing a trade agreement with El Salvador **that** would further entrench the rights of mining corporations and make a mining ban virtually impossible. A similar battle is being played out in neighbouring Costa Rica **where** Calgary-based Infinito Gold is threatening to sue for \$1bn if two supreme court rulings affirming the country's ban on opencast mining are not overturned. And in Chile, the battle continues as Barrick Gold evaluates its legal options.

13) As noted by the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes ruled human rights must not undermine investor protection in judging a dispute between French multinational water company SAUR and the government of Argentina in 2012.

14) It is time that international human rights bodies challenged this logic. The example of Canadian mining underscores the urgent need for the Human Rights Council to defend the primacy of human rights. If global human rights mechanisms do not confront the logic of international corporate rights championed by states like Canada, they risk becoming irrelevant.

from <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2013/apr/24/un-canada-mining-human-rights?INTCMP=SRCH>



Barrick Gold's processing plant at the Pacua-Lama mine on the border of Chile and Argentina. Photograph: Reuters

### A3 Using relative clauses

Re-write the following extracts from the article with relative clauses.

- (a) Canada allows its corporations to benefit from a climate of impunity, offering no legal recourse for adversely impacted communities and demanding no accountability in exchange for generous public subsidies, as the EU and other jurisdictions do. These conditions have made Canada a haven for the global mining industry.
- (b) The example of Canadian mining underscores the urgent need for the Human Rights Council to defend the primacy of human rights. If global human rights mechanisms do not confront the logic of international corporate rights championed by states like Canada, they risk becoming irrelevant.
- (c) This helps to explain why Canada is now home to 75% of the world's mining companies, the majority operating overseas. The Canadian government accelerated its pursuit of investment treaties in the global south to serve the interests of the extractive industry.

Write five sentences using defining and non-defining relative clauses, leaving a space for the answer which your partner will try and complete in the next class.

Example

\_\_\_\_\_ was an event which resulted in a worldwide decline of international tourism by 4.2% in 2009.

**B. Word Families****B1 Changing word forms to avoid plagiarism**

Example

*Original text* ...that would further entrench the rights of mining corporations and make a mining ban virtually impossible.

*Rewritten text* ...that would further entrench the rights of mining corporations, **making** a mining ban **a virtual impossibility**.

Complete the table below.

For some boxes, no answers are possible, while for others there is more than one possibility.

Vocabulary item and *part of speech	Different word form and *part of speech	Synonym
be global	some globalisation	be international, be worldwide
be ubiquitous		
an economy		
a profit		
a / some migration		
an advantage		
a / to link		
a critic		
a / to decline		

Key

a(n) + countable noun      be + adjective  
some + uncountable noun    to + verb

NB: Though *go down* is a synonym of decline, it is an example of a *phrasal verb*. These are regarded as being informal and should be avoided in formal academic writing.

**Some common suffixes**

Nouns      -ment -ity -hood -ship -tion -er/-or -ness

Adjectives    -ive    -al    -ous    -ish    -able/-ible    -ful/-less

Verbs      -ify    -ize/-ise

**B2 Pronunciation – suffixes and word stress**

- The stress moves to the syllable before some suffixes: 'global / globali'sation
- Some suffixes have no effect on the stress: 'punish / 'punishment
- Very few suffixes are stressed: millio'naire

### B3 Integrating the Techniques

Read the text below and make notes on the following.

- Should the fashion retailers be obliged to sign the initiative?
- If companies don't sign, should they be blacklisted?
- Should the garment workers be allowed to form trade unions without the permission of the factory owners?

Then use the techniques you have covered to condense the article into a single paragraph.

#### **Eight top fashion retailers fail to sign Bangladesh safety accord**

The accord on building safety in Bangladesh has been signed by Primark, Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Zara and Tesco



Workers outside a building in Dhaka, Bangladesh, that housed a clothing factory which, caught fire.

[Simon Neville The Guardian](#)

Tuesday 14 May 2013

Photograph: Ismail Ferdous/AP

At least eight of the UK's leading fashion retailers had last night failed to put their names to a legally binding initiative to offer financial support for fire safety and building improvements in the wake of the Bangladesh garment disaster.

George at Asda, Next, Matalan, River Island, Sports Direct, Peacocks, Shop Direct and the Arcadia group – which includes Topshop, Bhs and Dorothy Perkins – all failed to meet a deadline set by NGOs and labour leaders to sign the pledge.

The accord on fire and building safety in Bangladesh, which has been signed by H&M, Primark, C&A, Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Zara and Tesco, aims to compel retailers to pay for rigorous and independent public inspections and blacklist any factories unwilling to comply.

Last night a handful of other retailers did sign up before the deadline, including Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's, New Look and N Brown, a mail order and online retailer whose brands include High & Mighty, Marisota and figleaves.com.



The decision by the handful of retailers not to sign up was criticised by campaigners, who said it undermined any ethical initiatives the companies may have. Sam Maher from Labour Behind the Label said: "I think they are running out of excuses. No company can say they have their workers' interests at heart if they can't sign up.

"If H&M, Tesco and M&S can sign why can't Next and Arcadia? They have production in Bangladesh and have just as much responsibility to invest in those factories and ensure those workers are safe. Those that have signed have proved this is not an impossible demand. Are 1,200 dead workers not enough to make them realise something needs to be done?"

The Ethical Trading Initiative, the UK's biggest alliance of businesses, trade unions and voluntary organisations, which aim to improve working conditions, has recommended its members sign up to the accord. Debenhams, Next and George at Asda are all members of the ETI but have yet to sign up.

A spokesman for Debenhams said: "We fully agree with the intent of the agreement (but) we believe a collaborative approach to issues in Bangladesh is right. We continue to work through the Accord agreement and have provided feedback to the ETI." The company sources less than 10% of its stock from Bangladesh and confirmed it had never used the collapsed Rana Plaza complex.

George at Asda, which is owned by US group Walmart, said about 20% of its clothes come from Bangladesh. George did not use the Rana Plaza building, but Walmart refused to confirm or deny whether it sourced clothes there, only saying that no "authorised" production took place there. A spokeswoman said: "We are making investments into increasing wages, promoting female empowerment, supporting communities, health and safety initiatives and better working conditions."

Next declined to comment, but sources suggested the company could sign up later this week. The failure to meet the deadline by some of the biggest fashion names in the UK comes less than a day after the Bangladeshi government agreed to allow the country's 4 million garment workers to form trade unions without permission from factory owners.

Arcadia group, owned by billionaire Sir Philip Green, said it was unaware of the agreement and had not been approached by the ETI. A spokeswoman said: "We are not members of the ETI but have our own robust and comprehensive ethical trading programme and a resultant code of conduct." She confirmed that the company did not use the Rana Plaza building and it is understood the business has no plans to sign up.

Matalan, which used suppliers in the building as recently as February this year, said it would not be signing up to the agreement, but said it is part of a different non-binding agreement.

Philip Jennings, general secretary of UNI Global Union, which helped draft the proposals, said, "The clock is ticking for companies to show they care about their Bangladeshi supplier workforce. Their corporate reputations may be on the line but more importantly, so are the lives and livelihoods of these vulnerable factory workers in Bangladesh."

Shop Direct said it will not sign but is working with the International Labour Organisation instead. A spokeswoman added: "We trust their judgement and will continue to follow their actions closely." Sports Direct declined to comment but said a very small number of products come from Bangladesh. Peacocks and River Island were unavailable.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2013/may/14/fashion-retailers-fail-to-sign-bangladesh-accord>

### Answers

#### A1 Look at the sentences in **Table 1**

- (a) Can you work out when the zero ( Ø ) pronouns can be used?

**With object defining clauses**

- (b) What do you notice about sentences 5 and 6?

**Exceptions to the above. *Whose* and *where* can't be replaced by Ø**

- (c) How are sentences 7 and 8 different to the first 6?

**They are non-defining relative clauses**

#### A2 Take note of the relative pronouns in Article 1.

- (a) Can any take a different pronoun?

- (b) Which are non-defining?

The abuses by Canadian mining companies are a systemic part of an economic development policy **that / which** disregards human rights and disdains the environment. This helps to explain why Canada is now home to 75% of the world's mining companies, the majority operating overseas. The Canadian government has accelerated its pursuit of investment treaties in the global south to serve the interests of the extractive industry. These treaties allow companies to challenge environmental, public health or other resource-related policies that affect mining profits.

Mining projects require tremendous amounts of water and employ methods **that / which** contaminate precious water resources.

In El Salvador, **where** more than 60% of the population relies on a single source of water, this means choosing between drinking water and mining. **Non-defining**

Vancouver-based Pacific Rim, **which** describes itself on its website as "an environmentally and socially responsible exploration company **whose** business plans and management talent focus on high grade, environmentally clean gold deposits in the Americas", is suing El Salvador through a World Bank trade tribunal for \$315m (£207m) for refusing permits for a gold mine in the Department of Cabanas. **Non-defining**

Canada is pursuing a trade agreement with El Salvador **that / which** would further entrench the rights of mining corporations and make a mining ban virtually impossible. A similar battle is being played out in neighbouring Costa Rica **where** Calgary-based Infinito Gold is threatening to sue for \$1bn if two supreme court rulings affirming the country's ban on opencast mining are not overturned.

#### A3 Re-write the following extracts with relative clauses

Canada, **which** is a haven for the global mining industry, allows its corporations to benefit from a climate of impunity, offering no legal recourse for adversely impacted communities and demanding no accountability in exchange for generous public subsidies, as the EU and other jurisdictions do.

or

Canada, unlike the EU, allows its multinationals to behave with impunity, **which** is why Canada is a haven for mining companies.

If global human rights mechanisms do not confront the logic of international corporate rights championed by states like Canada, they risk becoming irrelevant, **which** the example of Canadian mining underscores.

The Canadian government, **which** has accelerated its pursuit of investment treaties in the global south to serve the interests of the extractive industry, has helped to make

Canada home to 75% of the world's mining companies, the majority operating overseas.

or

Canada's government is vigorously pursuing investment treaties, **which** allow companies to challenge policies that affect mining profits, in the global south to serve the interests of the industry.

### Example

**SARS** was an event which resulted in a worldwide decline of international tourism...

### B1 Word families <http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/dictionary/criticize>

<i><b>Vocabulary item and *part of speech</b></i>	<i><b>Different word form and *part of speech</b></i>	<i><b>Synonym</b></i>
be ubiquitous	some ubiquity	be common, be widespread
an economy	be economical / be economic / to economize	be frugal, be profitable
a profit	to profit / be profitable	be economic, be rewarding
a / some migration	to migrate / be migratory	-
an advantage	be advantageous / to advantage (rarely used)	be beneficial
a / to link	a/some linkage	to connect / a connection
a critic	be critical / to criticize (criticise)	be crucial
a / some / to decline	-	a / some / to decrease a / to fall

### B3 Condense the article into a single paragraph

Despite the Ethical Trading Initiative 's prompting, many of the British clothing retailers have yet to sign an initiative which would compel them to provide aid for improving and making buildings fireproof. The retailers would also finance inspections which could result in non-compliant companies being boycotted.

*43 words*