

Relative Clauses

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A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app
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Relative Pronouns and Relative Clauses

- Relative clauses provide extra detail about a nominal
 - Connected to main clause by a relative pronoun



Relative Pronouns and Relative Clauses

- English relative pronoun: "who," "that," "which"
 - "The teacher **who** helped me the most **was very creative.**"
 - "I need a pen **that** won't leak ink."
 - "I gave my book to a student **who** didn't have one."
 - "That's the student **to whom** I gave my book."
 - "That's the teacher **whose** classes were so interesting."
- Don't confuse with the interrogative pronoun
 - Relative pronouns don't ask questions
 - A relative clause has its own verb



Forms of the Greek Relative Pronoun

- 1st and 2nd declension noun endings + rough breathing

	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.	
nom.	ὅς	ἥ	ὃ	singular
gen.	οὗ	ἥς	οὗ	
dat.	ὧ	ἥ	ὧ	
acc.	ὄν	ἥν	ὃ	
voc.	-	-	-	
nom.	οἱ	αἱ	ἃ	plural
gen.	ῶν	ῶν	ῶν	
dat.	οῖς	αῖς	οῖς	
acc.	οὓς	ἄς	ἃ	
voc.	-	-	-	



Typing the Relative Pronoun

- Typing an iota subscript with a rough breathing mark
 - Some operating systems let you pile up “dead keys”
 - Type dead keys for iota subscript, for breathing mark, then the letter
 - Windows requires a “dead key” combination

Ctrl + Alt + Shift + ' , H = ῥ



Greek Relative Clauses

- A relative pronoun + the clause it introduces
 - Pronoun stands in for the antecedent nominal
 - Clause says something about that nominal

Ἄρτον ἔχω [ὅς καλός ἐστίν].

I have a loaf of bread [which is fresh].



Greek Relative Clauses

- A relative pronoun looks 2 directions
 - Agree with their antecedent in the main clause
 - Gender + number
 - Occupy a nominal's role in the subordinate clause
 - Subject, direct object, indirect object, etc.
 - This role determines **case**



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Ἄρτον ἔχω [ὃν Σοφία ἐποίησεν].

I have a loaf of bread [which Sophia made].



Keep Learning

- You can learn more about relative clauses and the Greek relative pronoun here:
 - Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek* (3rd edition)
 - relative pronouns, 14.1-14.13 (pp. 114-117), 14.14 (p. 119)
 - Wallace, *Basics of New Testament Syntax* (1st edition)
 - relative pronouns, "The Pronouns" section 4 (pp. 149-153)

