

B2 Premium - Lesson 02

Language — Focus on relative pronouns and relative clauses

Rules

In any kind of relative clause, we can use (1) for people, (2) for things, (3) for possession, (4) for time and (5) for places. In a defining relative clause, we can also use (6) for people or things, e.g. *the girl (7) sang really well; the tree (8) grew so tall.*

Practice exercise 1

Tick ✓ the sentences which are correct and replace the relative pronoun in those that are wrong. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 Do you remember Simon, whose used to teach us?
- 2 I think that the best time to come is in early August, which we have the celebrations.
- 3 They invited me to a pop concert which took place in Rio last month.
- 4 I'm writing in reply to the advertisement who asks for people to help in a summer camp.
- 5 I met some people there which became my good friends.
- 6 It was a period of my life that I had many problems.
- 7 It was not until I was seventeen that I started writing down all what happened to me every day.
- 8 Instead of going to a nursery, I went to a school which children learnt by playing.
- 9 There are some people whose aim in life is to earn as much money as possible.
- 10 The Park Hotel, that I found in the guide, is now closed so I stayed at the Central.

Practice exercise 2

Complete the text using relative pronouns.

Melanie Johnson, (1) house is opposite mine, is my favourite neighbour. She's a warm and friendly person (2) always likes to help other people. In the afternoon, (3) I come home, she often waves and smiles to me from her front garden, (4) she spends a lot of time in spring and summer. It has some lovely flowers, (5) she planted herself, and last week she gave some to my mother, (6) birthday was on Friday. She's always been generous like that. I remember years ago, (7) I was about ten, she painted a picture for me (8) was so lovely that I put it on my bedroom wall. It's still there.

Tip! You always have to fill in the gap in Part 2. The missing word can never be left out of the sentence.

RUOE part 2

In the real exam there are only 8 questions! We are practising with some extra ones today!

A short history of tattooing

Tattoos, (0) which some people call 'body art', have become more and more popular in recent years. In (13) of the pain caused by having a needle make hundreds of holes in their skin, millions of people (14) vary widely in age and background are nowadays having their bodies decorated with ink in all kinds of ways.

Many of today's young people, (15) parents were the first generation to experiment with tattoos, see it as a way of expressing their individuality, and in (16) to do this, they are constantly looking for new styles and designs. (17) to this increasing demand, tattoo studios have appeared in many towns and villages.

(18) people tend to think of it as a modern practice, tattooing has in fact been around for a long time. There is evidence of tattoos being worn in Siberia over 4,000 years ago, as (19) as in Ancient Egypt at that time, and it is thought to have existed in Japan 10,000 years ago. Even (20) , it was not until the late 18th century, (21) Captain James Cook sailed to Polynesia, that Europeans took an interest.

It was on the island of Tahiti, (22) tattooing had an important role in society, that Cook and his crew first saw tattooed men and women, and (23) of that, the English word comes from the Tahitian word *tatau*. Ever since then, sailors have had tattoos done, often (24) show the distant places they have visited.

Can you remember the linkers from the previous text?

Can you add more?

contrast	purpose	reason	addition

Listening part 2

The key is prediction!

You will hear a man called Markus Fischer talking about mooncake, a traditional Asian bakery product. For questions **9–18**, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Mooncake

Markus was staying in **(9)** when he first tried mooncake.

Markus's favourite kind of mooncake has a filling made of **(10)**

Markus says that he likes to have **(11)** with mooncake.



Mooncake is popular during the Moon Festival, which last year was held in **(12)**

The mooncake Marcus was given during the festival had the shape of a **(13)** on the top.

Markus was surprised to learn that mooncake is rarely made **(14)** in China.

The people Markus was staying with received mooncake from their **(15)**

His host family gave Markus a mooncake that had a slightly **(16)** flavour.

Markus was told that, many years ago, people used mooncakes to send **(17)** to each other.

After people had read what was written on the mooncake, they **(18)** it.

Transcript for Listening exercise

Read the transcript and find the answers underlined. How is the language in the question different from the language in the transcript?

Mooncake has long been popular among the Chinese communities in many western societies and of course it first appeared in China many centuries ago, and it's also extremely popular in countries such as Indonesia and Thailand, but (9) I hadn't actually tasted it until I visited Japan some years ago. I enjoyed it so much that since then I've eaten it in places as far apart as Vietnam and the Philippines, each time being pleasantly surprised by the differences in appearance, ingredients and flavour. Of the traditional types in China, I very much like those filled with egg, dried fruit or seeds, though (10) for me the one that really stands out has nuts inside. All of these kinds are quite sweet, as of course are the more modern varieties filled with chocolate or ice-cream, though I'm not so keen on those. Whatever the type of mooncake, though, (11) it is best accompanied by tea. I certainly drank lots of it when I was in Shanghai last year, rather than my usual favourite coffee with milk. I was fortunate enough to be there while people were celebrating the Moon Festival, an annual event that sometimes takes place in October although (12) last autumn it was in September. In other years it's been held only just after the end of August.

During the festival I learnt a lot more about mooncake from the Chinese family I was staying with. (13) I noticed the form of a rabbit on the upper surface of the one I was about to bite into, and it was pointed out to me that others may have flowers on the top, or the name of the baker's written there. Mooncake is traditionally seen as a way of bringing families closer together, so (14) I'd assumed that most Chinese people baked their own at home, but when I asked the family about that they said few did, mainly because it's so difficult to prepare. Nowadays, of course, people in towns and cities often buy mooncakes in supermarkets, and at that time of year many are received as presents in gift-wrapped boxes, often from relatives or friends, though (15) in the case of my host family theirs was from the employer of both the man and the woman. Although living in Shanghai, the family originally came from the city of Ningbo, further up the coast to the north-east, and as a gift they gave me a mooncake to take with me when I left. (16) This one differed from the generally sweet varieties found elsewhere in China in that it tasted a little salty,

on account of the fact that it was made from locally-produced ingredients that included meat. By this time I was becoming fascinated by everything connected with mooncake, and I asked the family to tell me a little about its history. They told me it first became popular in the fourteenth century during the time of the Ming Revolution, when (17) people passed on secret messages to one another as writing on the top of four mooncakes. To understand the code, the cakes had to be cut into four slices each and then joined with those from the other cakes to complete the message. This took place on the day of the Moon Festival, which then – as it still is today – was one of the most important dates in the Chinese calendar. (18) Once the message had been received, the evidence soon disappeared when everyone ate the mooncakes. Another legend describes the passing of messages hidden inside mooncake, although presumably in that case the secret letter was burnt once it had been read.

Words I want to ask my teacher about...