

ADJECTIVE (RELATIVE) CLAUSES

PART 1: ADJECTIVE (RELATIVE) CLAUSES

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WHAT ARE ADJECTIVE CLAUSES?

- My car is **red**. I bought a **red** car.
- The adjective «**red**» describes or modifies the name «car» in both sentences.
!! **ADJECTIVES DESCRIBE OR MODIFY NOUNS.**

- I bought a car **that was driven only within city center.**

noun

Adjective Clause

Adjective clauses describe or modify nouns that come before them.

Noun + Adj. Clause

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WHAT ARE ADJECTIVE CLAUSES?

- RULE: Adjective clauses can be used *as the subject or object of the sentence!!!*

- My sister bought a car that was driven only within city center.
 Subj. Verb Object
- A car that is driven only within city center is usually in good condition.
 Subject Verb Object

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WHAT ARE ADJECTIVE CLAUSES?

- Let's find the adjective clauses in the sentences below.
- Also, let's find out the « S – V – O » in the sentences:
- ✓ The laptop that you bought last week is \$50 more expensive today.
- ✓ I want to see the laptop that you bought last week.

!! One sentence might include many nouns. And, all the nouns in the sentence can be described with adjective clauses.

For this reason, the main reason for complex sentences in English are adjective clauses because you can have really long sentences when you use adjective clauses.!!

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WHAT ARE ADJECTIVE CLAUSES?

- Let's find the adjective clauses in the sentences below.
- Also, let's find out the « S – V – O » in the sentences:
- ✓ My brother saw the woman who feeds our dog every day.
- ✓ The woman who feeds our dog every day comes from a long distance.
- ✓ The car which is parked in front of our building has been there for almost two weeks.
- ✓ I am going to call the police about the car which is parked in front of our building.

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- We use «*who / whom / that*» to describe *people* in the sentence.
- We use «*that / which*» to describe *things* in the sentence.
- We do NOT repeat the person or thing that we describe within the adjective clause again.
 - ✓ The man that I saw ~~him~~ yesterday wants to talk to you. (him = the man)
 - ✓ The teacher who ~~she~~ will teach us this semester is from Bangladesh. (she = the teacher)

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- Examples:
- I cannot see **the book**. / **It** has pictures from 19th century.
 - ✓ I cannot see the book **that** has pictures from 19th century.
- I need to find **the guy**. / **He** sold me this bag.
 - ✓ I need to find the guy **who** sold me this bag.
- I cannot see **the book**. You gave me **the book** as a present.
 - ✓ I cannot see the book **that** you gave me as a present.
- I need to find **the guy**. My father thanked **him** for his help.
 - ✓ I need to find the guy **who(m)** my father thanked for his help.

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- In some adjective clauses, «*who, which, that*» is followed by the «**VERB**» of the adjective clause.
 - ✓ The student *who* was sent away for a week by the admin returned to school today.
 - ✓ The student *who* is talking to the teacher studies for four hours a day.
 - ✓ I want to show you the television *that* fell on me.
 - ✓ Jill did not see the car *that* was coming towards her.

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- In other adjective clauses, «*who, which, that*» is followed *by another person*, or the «*SUBJECT*» of the adjective clause.
 - ✓ The student *who* the teacher shouted at so badly left the class crying.
 - ✓ The man *who(m)* you thanked was not the man that helped me.
 - ✓ Terry keeps talking about the movie *that* he saw last week.
 - ✓ I want to show you the game console *that* my uncle gave me as a birthday present.

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- When «*who/that*» is followed by *a Subject*, we can use «*whom*» and «*who*», *and* we can also *omit them both* (Ø).
 - ✓ The student *who* the teacher shouted at so badly left the class crying.
 - = The student **whom** the teacher shouted at so badly left the class crying.
 - = The student (Ø) the teacher shouted at so badly left the class crying.
 - ✓ The man *who* you thanked was not the man that helped me.
 - = The man **whom** you thanked was not the man that helped me.
 - = The man (Ø) you thanked was not the man that helped me.

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DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- Similarly, when «**which/that**» is followed by *a Subject*, we can *omit which and that* (Ø).
 - ✓ Terry keeps talking about **the movie that he saw last week**.
= Terry keeps talking about the movie (Ø) he saw last week.
 - ✓ I want to show you **the game console that my uncle gave me** as a birthday present.
= I want to show you the game console (Ø) my uncle gave me as a birthday present.
 - ✓ **The cat which I found on the street** was in terrible condition.
= The cat (Ø) I found on the street was in terrible condition.

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SHORT EXERCISES...

Mark **ALL** the possible options that can fill in the blanks below.

1. The banks _____ lost profit last year caused a serious damage to economy.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
2. Kerry will tell us about the cities _____ she visited during the summer.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
3. Most students love teachers _____ don't give difficult tests.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
4. I will take you to the house _____ we will rent for the summer.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø

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SHORT EXERCISES...

5. The profit rates _____ the accountant gave us did not look correct.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
6. A car _____ does not have strong brakes poses a serious danger.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
7. He once tried to sell me a car _____ was involved in a serious accident.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø
8. All of the four children _____ Madonna has adopted are from Malawi.
a. who b. whom c. which d. that e. Ø

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«PREPOSITION + ADJ. CLAUSE»

- In adjective clauses, we omit the nouns that we describe from the adjective clause, but the prepositions that come before them are NOT omitted.
 - «This is **the woman**. I talked to **this woman** on the phone.»

This is the woman	who	I talked to	on the phone.
This is the woman	whom	I talked to	on the phone.
This is the woman	that	I talked to	on the phone.
This is the woman	Ø	I talked to	on the phone.
 - «This is **the car**. I had the accident with **this car**.»

This is the car	which	I had the accident with .
This is the car	that	I had the accident with .
This is the car	Ø	I had the accident with .

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«PREPOSITION + ADJ. CLAUSE»

- The prepositions in the adjective clause can be used before adjective pronouns (at the beginning of the adjective clause).
- In this case, we can use only «**whom**» and «**which**» as the adjective pronoun.
 - ✓ The woman **whom** I told you **about** was Sarah.
 - = The woman **about whom** I told you was Sarah. ✓ ✓
 - = The woman **about who/that/Ø** I told you was Sarah. X X (wrong)
 - ✓ The topic **which** the professor talked **about** was highly controversial.
 - = The topic **about which** the professor talked was highly controversial. ✓ ✓
 - = The topic **about that/Ø** the professor talked was highly controversial. X X (wrong)

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«PREPOSITION + ADJ. CLAUSE»

MORE EXAMPLES:

- ✓ The woman **who/whom/that/Ø** I was dancing **with** kept stepping on my toes.
- = The woman **with whom** I was dancing kept stepping on my toes.
- ✓ The person **who/whom/that/Ø** you sent the package **to** does not live at this address any more.
- = The person **to whom** you sent the package does not live at this address any more.
- ✓ The conference **which/that/Ø** I went **to** at the weekend was interesting.
- = The conference **to which** I went at the weekend was interesting.

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WHOSE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- When we want to *describe a noun by reference to its possessions*, we use «*whose*».
- **The teacher** does not treat us equally. **His** son is in our class.
 - ✓ The teacher **whose son is in our class** does not treat us equally.
- The company owner finally fired **the manager**. **His** demands were simply ridiculous.
 - ✓ The company owner finally fired **the manager whose demands were simply ridiculous**.

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WHOSE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- **The professor** will teach us next semester. I read **her** book last week.
 - ✓ **The professor whose book I read last week** will teach us next semester.
- In all these sentences «**whose**» replaces the possessive adjectives «**my/your/his/her/its/their/our**» in the sentence.
- EXAM STRATEGY: When you feel like the answer is «**whose**» in an exam, but you cannot be sure, replace «**whose**» with the relevant **possessive adjective**. If the sentence sounds fine, then the answer is «**whose**».
- This school is for students _____ parents are extremely poor.
.... their parents are extremely poor. ✓✓

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- We use «**where**» to describe a place in adjective clauses.
 - ✓ This is *the school where I learnt everything about my job.*
 - ✓ I want to move to *a place where people live in peace and harmony.*
- But! A place name, such as «the school», can be used both as a place or an object.
- When it is used as an object, we need to use «**which**» as the adjective pronoun, but when it is used as a place name, «**where**» is the right option.
 - ✓ This is *the school which has more than 1000 students.*
 - ✓ This is *the school where all the teachers love their jobs.*
- HOW DO WE DECIDE THEN?

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- *In a normal sentence*, «**place names**» usually come at the end of the sentence and they are always used with place prepositions like «**in/on/at**».
- However, place names that are used as **objects** are **NOT** used with place prepositions.
 - ✓ My parents live **in Spain**. (Spain: Place)
 - ✓ Everyone would love to visit **Spain**. (Spain: Object name)
 - ✓ **Barcelona** is a great city. (object name)
 - ✓ Corn is grown **in Barcelona**. (place)
- In this case, «object = Spain or **it**» but «place = in Barcelona or **in it**»

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- In other words, when you want to choose between «**where**» and «**which**» in writing or an exam, try to insert the noun that you describe into the adjective clause. If you can insert the noun as «**it/Barcelona**», then the adjective pronoun is «**which**».
- If you can insert the noun into the adjective clause as «**in it/in Barcelona**», then the adjective pronoun is «**where/in which**».
- EXAMPLES:
- Mark **ALL** the possible options that can fill in the blanks below:
- Antalya, _____ you can find the best rugs in Turkey, is the biggest tourism center in Turkey.
a) which b) where c) in which

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- SOME MORE EXAMPLES:
- Please choose **ALL** the options that fit in the blank:
- Barcelona, _____ you can find beautiful historical buildings, is the biggest tourism center in Spain.
a) which b) where c) in which
- Barcelona, _____ has a population of more than 1.5 million, is the biggest tourism center in Spain.
a) which b) where c) in which

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- Barcelona, _____ you can visit both in summer and in winter, is the biggest tourism center in Spain.
a) which b) where c) in which
- Barcelona, _____ is located on the northeastern Spain, is the biggest tourism center in the country.
a) which b) where c) in which

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- Let's pay closer attention to these two sentences:
- Barcelona, **which has** a population of more than 1.5 million, is the biggest tourism center in Spain.
- Barcelona, **which is located** on the northeastern Spain, is the biggest tourism center in the country.
- It is NEVER possible to have «**WHERE + VERB**» in any adjective clause!
- It always goes: "**WHICH + VERB.**"

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WHERE + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- MORE EXAMPLES:
 - Please mark ALL the options that fit in the blank: [in your heart: where/in which // your heart: which]
 - It is your heart _____ you can find peace.
a) which b) where c) in which
 - It is your heart _____ you need to look into to find peace.
a) which b) where c) in which
 - It is your heart _____ leads you to the path to peace.
a) which b) where c) in which
 - It is your heart _____ all the secrets to peace are hidden.
a) which b) where c) in which
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IN SUMMARY...

- it = which
- in it in which
- on it = on which = where
- at it at which

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WHEN + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- We use «**when**» to describe or modify a «**time**».
- ✓ 4th of July was *the day **when*** 23 states declared their independence in the USA.
- ✓ I will never forget *the time **when*** we had no money at all in our pockets.

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WHEN + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- «**When**» can be used as «**in/on/at which**».
- «**When**» can also be omitted from the sentence.
- EXAMPLES: (from A song by **Just Jack**)

✓ The day	when	I died	was the best day of my life.
✓ =The day	Ø	I died	was the best day of my life.
✓ =The day	on which	I died	was the best day of my life.
✓ =The day	which	I died on	was the best day of my life. (not natural)
✓ =The day	that	I died on	was the best day of my life. (not natural)

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WHEN + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- MORE EXAMPLES:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| ✓ I will never forget the year | when | we ranked 3rd in the World Cup. |
| ✓ I will never forget the year | Ø | we ranked 3rd in the World Cup. |
| ✓ I will never forget the year | in which | we ranked 3rd in the World Cup. |

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WHY + ADJECTIVE CLAUSE

- We use «*why + adjective clause*» to describe a reason.
- For most of the time, it is used simply as «...**the reason why**...».
- So, it can be considered like a fixed expression:
 - ✓ I know *the reason **why*** Evelyn was not there.
 - ✓ No one told me *the reason **why*** Tom and Mary were laughing.
 - ✓ *The reason **why*** we should be worried about global warming is clear to everyone.

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DESCRIBING PRONOUNS IN ADJ. CLAUSES

- In addition to nouns, adjective clauses can also describe or modify *pronouns*.
- Most common pronouns that can be described by adjective clauses: *everything / something / nothing / anything / all / someone / one (meaning a person) / those (meaning the people)*
- It is common to omit «**who/which/that**» from the sentence when relative pronouns are followed by another subject.
 - ✓ **Everything (that) he said** turned out to be a big lie.
 - ✓ **All (that) they could do** was to watch the fight.
 - ✓ You can buy **anything (that) you like**.

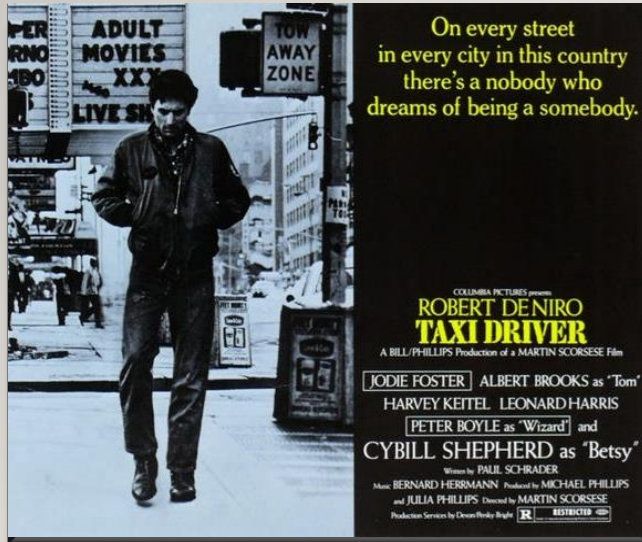
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DESCRIBING PRONOUNS IN ADJ. CLAUSES

- MORE EXAMPLES:
 - ✓ **Those who cannot hear well** should sit in the front.
 - ✓ Paul was **the one who started the protest**.
 - ✓ **All that I have** is **all that you've given me**.
(Sam Brown, *Stop!*, '88)
 - ✓ **All you need** is love..
(The Beatles, '67)



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DESCRIBING PRONOUNS IN ADJ. CLAUSES

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DEFINING/NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- In defining adjective clauses, the adjective clause is definitely necessary to identify the noun that it describes. *It has to be there* to understand the sentence.
- In non-defining adjective clauses, the adjective clause simply gives extra information or makes a comment about the noun. *It does NOT have to be there*. It simply adds to the meaning.
 - ✓ Only **a teacher who loves his job** can teach his subject well.
(Defining; adj. cl. is necessary to the sentence)
 - ✓ Ülkü teacher, **who loves his job very much**, can teach English well.
(Non-defining; adj. cl. only adds extra information)
- We use commas in Non-defining adjective clauses.

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DEFINING/NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- If a defining adjective clause is omitted from the sentence, the sentence becomes *meaningless*.
- If a non-defining adjective clause is omitted from the sentence, the sentence still remains *meaningful*.
- Only **a teacher who loves his job** can teach his subject well.
- ✓ Only a teacher can teach his subject well. (*Meaningless!!!*)
- **Ülkü teacher, who loves his job very much**, can teach English well.
- ✓ Ülkü teacher can teach English well. (*Still meaningful!*)

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- Non-defining adjective clauses are used particularly in three places:
1. With PROPER NOUNS:
 - ✓ **Mr Gibbs, whom I met yesterday**, was very interesting.
 - VERSUS
 - The man that I met yesterday was very interesting.
 - ✓ **Istanbul, which has an enormous population**, suffers from air pollution.
 - VERSUS
 - A city which has an enormous population suffers from air pollution.

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

2. With GENERIC NOUNS (i.e. nouns that refer to *all members of a class or group*)

✓ **Lions, which are majestic animals**, are vital to the ecosystems.

VERSUS

Lions that live in Botswana are vital to the ecosystem there.

✓ **Books, which open windows to new worlds**, will significantly improve your child's imagination.

VERSUS

Books that are sold in this bookstore will significantly improve your child's imagination.

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

3. With nouns that refer to ONE, UNIQUE thing or person:

✓ **My daughter, who is only 6 years old**, can speak English well.

VERSUS

My daughter who lives in Rome cannot visit me often, but my other daughter usually visits me twice a year.

(In the second sentence, the speaker has more than one daughter. The speaker is talking about the one living in Rome, not any of the other daughter/daughters.)

✓ **My book, which sold more than 1 million copies**, will be published by another publisher next time.

VERSUS

My book that sold more than 1 million copies will be published by another publisher next time.

(We understand that the speaker has more than one book.)

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- EXAM STRATEGY: Defining/Non-defining adjective clauses will be helpful especially in your writing. You will never be asked if an adjective clause is defining or non-defining in a multiple-choice exam! But, it is important to know because...
- We CANNOT use «**that**» adjective pronoun in NON-DEFINING adjective clauses, and we CANNOT omit «**who, whom, which**» in non-defining adjective clause.
 - ✓ My book, **which** sold more than 1 million copies, will be published by another publisher next time. ✓ ✓
 - ✓ My book, **that** sold more than 1 million copies, will be published by another publisher next time. X X (wrong!)

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- Examples:
 - ✓ The man **who** I met yesterday was very interesting.
whom
that
Ø
 - ✓ Mr Gibbs, **who** I met yesterday, was very interesting.
whom

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NON-DEFINING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- Examples:

✓ **that**
 Lions **which** people see in zoos do not really act naturally.
 Ø

✓ Lions, **which** people have always found fascinating, are vital to the ecosystems.

- In short, we can say: Non-defining adjective clause is limiting; *no «that» & no omission !*

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EXPRESSIONS OF QUANTITY IN ADJECTIVE CLAUSES

- We use «**quantifiers + of**» before the adjective clause when we want to underline the amount or quantity of the noun described.

«*Quantifier + of + adjective clause*»

✓ I have 20 students in class, **most of whom** are from Southern parts of the country.

✓ I bought 3 pairs of jeans, **one of which** was a little too expensive.

✓ I have two brothers, **both of whom** are businessmen.

- When using quantifiers, we prefer «**whom**» after «**of**» because «**of**» is a preposition and we use «**whom**» after prepositions.

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MODIFYING THE WHOLE SENTENCE

- When we want to express our opinion or our feeling about the whole sentence, or when we want to make a comment, we use «**which**» adjective clause separated by comma at the end of the sentence.
 - ✓ My son has been chosen for the chess team, **which** made us all so happy.
 - ✓ Mr. Jonason was convicted of fraud, **which** shocked everyone that knew him.
 - ✓ He hasn't had one single accident in 14 years, **which** is a great record for insurance.

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CLEFT SENTENCES

- In order emphasize a specific word or group of words in the sentence, we use it at the beginning of the sentence with empty subject «**it**» and an adjective clause.
 - «Mary solved a trigonometry question yesterday.» (No emphasis)
 - ✓ It was Mary **who solved the trigonometry question yesterday**. (Emphasis: Mary)
 - ✓ It was a trigonometry question **that Mary solved yesterday**. (Emphasis: a trigonometry question)
 - ✓ It was yesterday **when Mary solved the trigonometry question**. (Emphasis: yesterday)
- *A MOVIE CLIP: Sunset Boulevard (1950)*

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CLEFT SENTENCES

- *Sunset Boulevard* (1950)

« I AM big! It is the pictures (movies) that got small! »

Emphasis: the pictures

(«The pictures got small.»: No emphasis)

EXERCISE TIME

PART 2: OMISSION AND SHORT FORMS IN ADJ. CLAUSES

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