

RELATIVE SENTENCES



RELATIVE CLAUSES



DEFINITION

They function as an adjective that gives information about one of the elements in the main clause.

A relative clause appears next to the element it modifies.



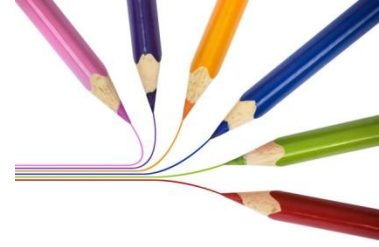
*My friend Mary, **who** is English, is your new neighbour*

We saw the man [who teaches truth.]

antecedent

relative clause

RELATIVE CLAUSES



There are two types of relative clauses:

- A. DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSE:** It gives **essential** information about the element it modifies. The sentence will be incomplete without it. It is directly joined to the main clause. It is informal, mainly used orally.

- B. NON-DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSE:** It gives **extra** information about the element it modifies. It is separated by comma(s) from the main clause. It is more formal, mainly used in writing.

RELATIVE CLAUSES



RELATIVE PRONOUNS:

- **WHO / THAT** refer to people.

It was Julie who / that visited me at the hospital.

He is the man (who / that) I met at the party last weekend.

- **WHICH / THAT** refer to objects.

The piano is the instrument which / that really interests me.

The bag (which / that) we found was full of money.

RELATIVE CLAUSES



- **WHOSE** indicates possession; it cannot be omitted.

That's the boy whose brother is a pop star.

- **WHOM** refers to people; it's used after prepositions but it is usually omitted and the preposition moves after the verb.

The people with whom he works regards him as eccentric.

(Formal style)

The people he works with regards him as eccentric.

(Informal style)

RELATIVE CLAUSES



RELATIVE ADVERBS:

- **WHEN** refers to a moment in time; they can be omitted.
Rob and Alice arrived in the afternoon, when I was having a nap
- **WHERE** refer to a particular place; it cannot be omitted.
I remember the cinema where I watch my first film.
- **WHY / THAT** refer to a reason; it can be omitted.
They have explained to me the reason (why /that) they didn't come to my birthday party.