

Activity Type

Grammar Exercises:
matching, gap-fill,
rewriting sentences

Focus

Defining relative clauses

Aim

To practice or review
defining relative clauses
with *who*, *whose*, *that*,
which and *where*.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
two-page worksheet for
each student.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

Here is a story-based relative clauses worksheet to help students practice or review defining relative clauses with *who*, *whose*, *that*, *which* and *where*.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Students begin by reading an unfinished story. Students then match phrases together and write out sentences about the story with defining relative clauses.

Exercise B - Answer key

1. (b) (iii) 2. (a) (iv) 3. (d) (ii) 4. (c) (i)

Next, students do a gap-fill exercise where they complete more sentences about the story by choosing the correct relative pronouns.

If no word should be used, students write a dash (-) in the space.

Exercise C - Answer key (- indicates that no word goes there)

1. where, -	5. who, -
2. who, -	6. that, -
3. whose, -	7. which, where, -
4. that, -	8. where, -

After that, students combine sentences together using relative pronouns.

Exercise D - Answer key

1. The computer that/which exploded and started the fire was Anita's.
2. The driver who/that hit her car was an elderly man.
3. The intersection where the accident happened was very busy.
4. The person who pushed Anita away from the window was an elderly man.
5. The car that/which drove through the cafe window caused the second accident of the day involving Anita.
6. The man who/that saved Anita's life disappeared after the accident at the cafe.

Finally, have a class discussion and elicit what happened next in the story and possible endings.

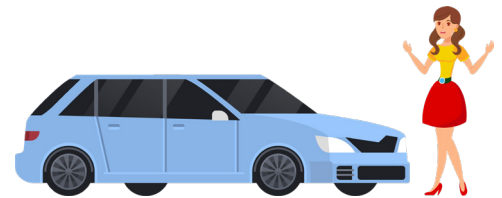
Defining relative clauses define or identify the person, thing or place in the sentence.

Relative pronoun	Use	Example
who (or sometimes that)	for people	The person who was waiting by her car wanted to stop her getting in the car.
which or that	for things or animals	The car that hit her car was an SUV.
where	for places	The place where she worked was an office building.
whose	for possessions (always followed by a noun)	The driver whose car hit her car was an elderly man.

A. Read the following unfinished story.

Anita had a strange day yesterday. First, she was delayed leaving for work because a woman tried to stop her from getting into her car when she left her apartment. The woman had long brown hair and was waiting for Anita. The woman kept blocking Anita from getting in her car, but Anita managed to push past her and open the car door.

On her way to work, another car hit her car while she was waiting at a red light at a very busy intersection. When she got out of the car, she saw that her front grill had been damaged. The other car was a large SUV, and the driver was an elderly man with a blue hat. He apologised for hitting her car. Then, he drove off without giving his insurance or contact information.



Anita arrived at work to see some of her co-workers standing in the car park outside her office building. Her other co-workers were across the street in a cafe. Smoke was coming out of the office building, and firefighters were going in to try to put out the fire. A co-worker told Anita that a computer had exploded and started the fire. It had been her computer.

Since she couldn't go to work, Anita went to the cafe across the street. The elderly man with a blue hat was sitting at a table by the window. She walked over to ask him for his insurance information. Suddenly, he stood up and pushed her with all his strength. Right then, a car drove through the cafe window and into the table, just missing her.

Confused, Anita looked around. The elderly man had disappeared. But in the corner of the cafe, she saw the woman with long brown hair from earlier that day.

B. Match the phrases together and write out the sentences about the story.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The woman who | (a) hit Anita's car | (i) was an elderly man. |
| 2. The car that | (b) was waiting by Anita's car | (ii) was very busy. |
| 3. The intersection where | (c) car hit her car | (iii) had long brown hair. |
| 4. The driver whose | (d) the SUV hit her car | (iv) was a large SUV. |

1.
2.
3.
4.

C. Complete the sentences about the story by choosing the correct relative pronouns. If no word should be used, write - in the space.

1. The intersection *which / where / -* the SUV hit Anita's car
where / that / - was very busy.
2. A woman *who / which / -* had long brown hair *who / which / -*
tried to stop Anita getting in her car.
3. Was Anita the person *whose / who / -* computer exploded and
who / where / - started the fire?
4. The firefighters *which / that / -* went into the building *which /*
that / - tried to put out the fire.
5. The people *who / whose / -* were standing in the car park
who / whose / - were Anita's co-workers.
6. The elderly man *that / which / -* hit Anita's car *where / which /*
-) was driving an SUV.
7. The fire *where / which / -* started *where / that / -* Anita
worked *which / that / -* was caused by an exploding computer.
8. Anita didn't go into the building *whose / where / -* her computer
..... *that / where / -* had exploded.

D. Combine the following sentences together using relative pronouns.

1. A computer exploded and started the fire. The computer was Anita's.
.....
2. A driver hit Anita's car. He was an elderly man.
.....
3. The accident happened at an intersection. It was a very busy intersection.
.....
4. A person pushed Anita away from the window. The person was an elderly man.
.....
5. A car drove through the cafe window. It caused the second accident of the day involving
Anita.
.....
6. A man saved Anita's life. He disappeared after the accident at the cafe.
.....