

Relative sentences

Check: <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/english-grammar/relative-clauses>

Making relatives.

1. Read these sentences

- *Teenagers' brains, which are different from adults', are less developed.*
- *Scientists who have studied the human brain believe it develops with exercise.*
- *The laboratory where they did the research is near here.*
- *The day when Vicky got married she was very nervous.*
- *That was the reason why he didn't come.*

- a. What are the underlined words used for?
- b. What uses have who, which, where, when and why got?
- c. What is special about the laboratory and the day?

Who – refers to people, **which** – refers to things or a situation.

*Mrs Bryant is the woman **who** owns that enormous house.*

*There are many restaurants **which** offer Sunday dinners.*

Where, when and **why** can also be used to make relatives of place, time and reason.

That can often substitute **who** or **which**.

- *John is the player **who / that** scored the goal.*
- *This is the church **where** we got married.*
- *England is the country **where** you can have a beer at a pub.*
- *It was 1945, the year **when** Germany surrendered in Europe.*
- *It was last week **when** I saw "The Lord of the Rings", not last month.*
- *It was your sister's wedding **why** we went to Madrid.*

2. Make relative sentences with these sentences. Use relative pronouns.

- a. People under 18 cannot drink beer. People under 18 are teenagers.
- b. Isaac told us everything. A lot of things happened to him.
- c. That is the house. I was born in that house.
- d. This kind old woman is 100 years old. This woman lives on the fifth floor.
- e. I am teaching at a school. The school is in Manchester, New Hampshire.
- f. That person is Jane. Jane gave me a CD for my birthday.
- g. John is playing chess with me. John is my brother.

3. Complete the conversation with relatives.

- a. A: Shall we have something to eat?
- b. B: Yes, but not here. I don't like cafés don't have tables. I'm not one of those people can eat standing up.
- c. A: There's another restaurant over there.
- d. B: It looks expensive, one of those places charges very high prices. The only customers can afford to eat there are business executives get their expenses paid. Anyway, I can't see a menu. I'm not going into a restaurant doesn't display a menu.
- e. A: We just passed a café does snacks.
- f. B: Oh, I didn't like the look of that.
- g. A: You're one of those people Are never satisfied, aren't you?

Defining and non-defining relative clauses

Non-defining sentences give extra information about the person or things, but can be removed without losing key facts about the person or object. Non-defining clauses go between commas.

*Robbie Williams' Millennium, **which** is one of his most successful singles, came out in 1999.*

*Mark Smith, **who** lives next to me, plays in a rock band.*

Defining clauses give essential information necessary to describe the person or thing we are talking about.

*This is the CD **which** everyone is talking about.*

*She's the woman **who** works with my mother.*

*This is the book **which** I told you about.*

1. Are these sentences defining or non-defining?

- a. My grandmother who is 102 is a healthy elderly woman.
- b. Have you already repaired the machine that I bought you?
- c. My town which is on the coast is warm in summer.
- d. People who play chess exercise their brains.
- e. Tom who is studying Bacharelato speaks fluent English.

2. Write defining and non-defining relatives.

- a. Steven Spielberg lives in Hollywood. He is a famous film director.
- b. Have you met the girl? She's going out with Ted.
- c. That's the café. I meet my friends there.
- d. She's the girl. Her brother plays in the football team.
- e. The book is about a murder on the Nile. It was written by Agatha Christie.
- f. The new band is very good. It was formed last year.
- g. Ivan is very good looking. He's Helen's brother.
- h. There are the trainers. I bought them yesterday.
- i. The diamond necklace has been found by the police. It was stolen last week.

3. Questions - Make a single relative question from these sentences.

- a. What's the name of the actor? He starred in that film I told you about.
- b. What happens to the cells? They are not used.
- c. That is the school. I studied there for five years.
- d. Who is the boy? His father is a teacher here.
- e. Have you read the book? I lent it to you a year ago.

4. Link the sentences with the bold relative pronouns to make one sentence.

- a. There are villages in Greece. The people hold a festival every May. (**whose**)
- b. Anastenaria is a festival. It dates back to 1250. (**which**)
- c. La Tomatina attracts a lot of visitors. Some of them come from abroad. (**whom**)
- d. La Tomatina started in 1944. People threw tomatoes at the town officials. (**when**)

5. Join the sentences with relative clauses. Make any other changes necessary. Decide if they are defining and non-defining.

- a. That's the girl. I sent her a Valentine's card.
- b. It's a huge festival. People throw tomatoes at one another.
- c. It's that time of year. People are planning for Christmas.
- d. He's a local kid. I went to school with him.
- e. My friend Isabel wants to do media studies. Her father is a TV presenter.
- f. The new club plays great music. James works there.
- g. My holiday in Ibiza was wonderful. I first met Jenny then.
- h. That's the school. I used to go to it.
- i. There's the girl. I was telling you about her.
- j. That was the day. They got married then.
- k. They build a gigantic wicker man. They set it on fire.
- l. This is the film. I've been waiting to see it for ages.