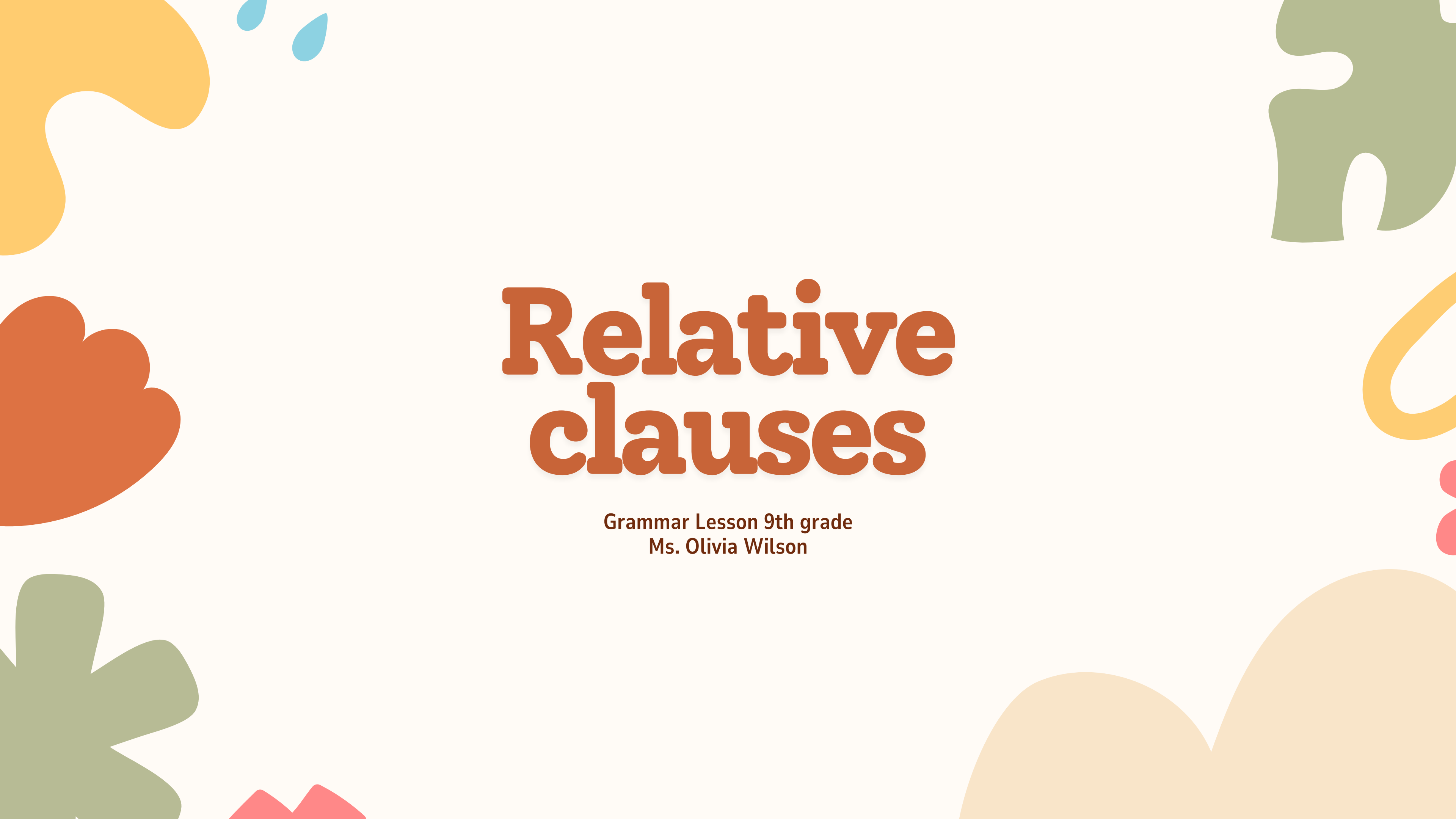




Relative clauses

Grammar Lesson 9th grade
Ms. Olivia Wilson

Introduction to* relative clauses

- A relative clause is a part of a sentence that describes or gives more information about a noun.
- It is connected to the main clause using a relative pronoun such as who, whom, whose, which, or that.
- Relative clauses can provide essential information (defining relative clauses) or extra information (non-defining relative clauses) about the noun they modify. These clauses help to combine ideas and add detail, making sentences more informative and interesting.

The woman ***who lives next door*** is a doctor.

My car, ***which I bought last year***, has already broken down.

The student ***whose laptop was stolen*** is very upset.

Defining relative clauses *

Defining relative clauses give **essential information** about the noun they modify. This information is necessary to understand which specific person or thing is being referred to. Without the defining relative clause, the meaning of the sentence would be incomplete or unclear.

The book that you lent me was fascinating.

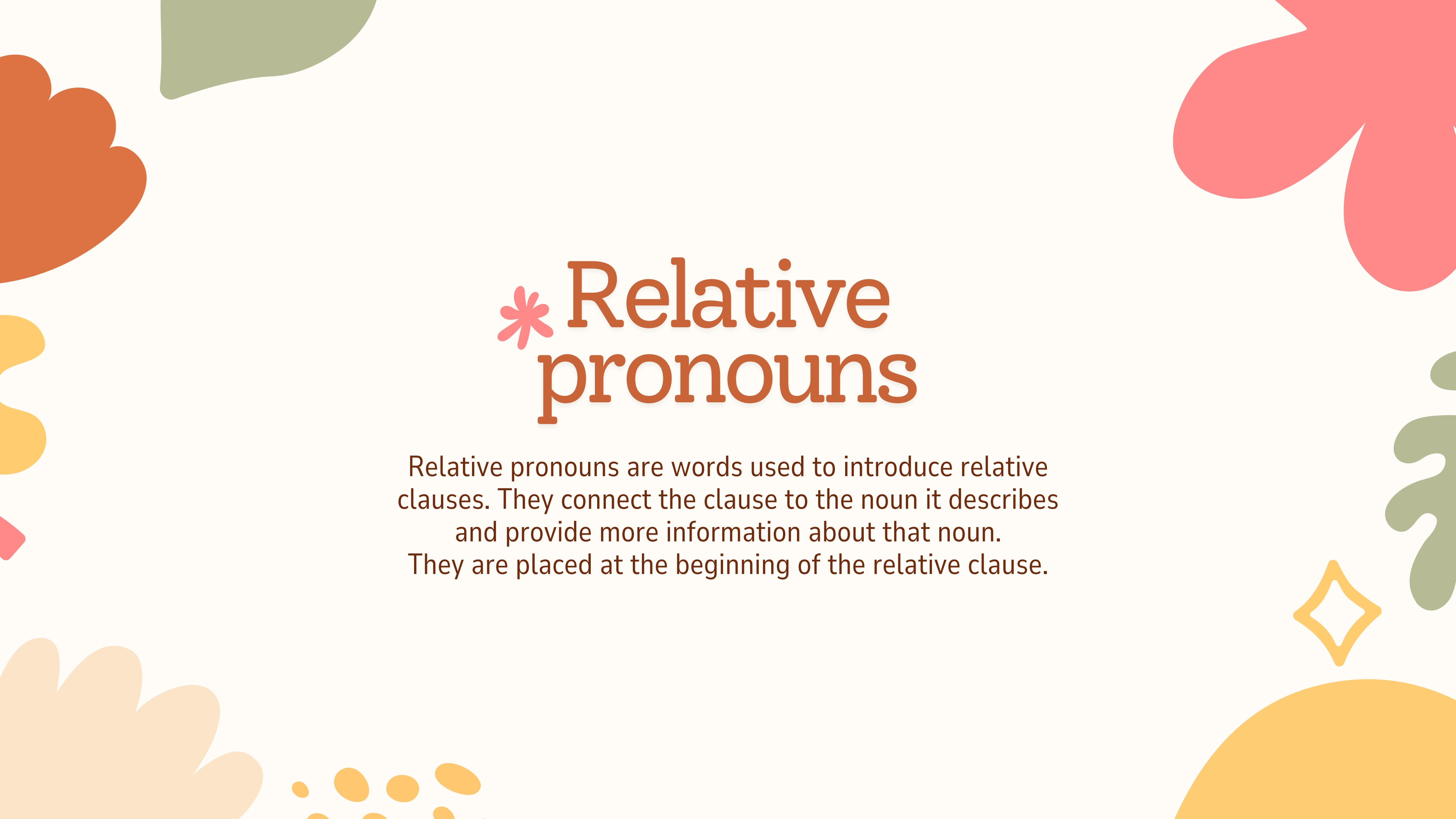
Explanation: "That you lent me" specifies which book is being referred to, making it essential information.

Non-defining relative clauses

Non-defining relative clauses add **extra information** about a noun that is already clear or specific. This information is not necessary to identify the noun but provides additional details. **Non-defining relative clauses** are always separated by commas.

My brother, who lives in Peru, is coming to visit.

Explanation: "Who lives in Peru" gives extra information about "my brother." Even without this clause, we still know which brother is coming to visit.



* Relative pronouns

Relative pronouns are words used to introduce relative clauses. They connect the clause to the noun it describes and provide more information about that noun. They are placed at the beginning of the relative clause.

1

Who: Refers to people.

Example: The teacher who inspired me is retiring.

Usage: Used to give more information about a person.

2

Whom: Refers to people (more formal, often used in written English).

Example: The student whom the teacher praised is very happy.

Usage: Used when the person is the object of the verb in the relative clause.

3

Whose: Indicates possession.

Example: The writer whose book I read is very talented.

Usage: Used to show that something belongs to someone.

4

Which: Refers to animals and things.

Example: The movie which we watched last night was thrilling.

Usage: Used to provide more information about things or animals.

5

That: Can refer to people, animals, and things (used in defining relative clauses).

Example: The car that I bought is red.

Usage: Used to give essential information about the noun.

* **Relative
pronouns**



Activity 1

Underline the relative clause and circle the relative pronoun.

The car that I bought is new.

The teacher, who is very kind, helped me.

My friend, who lives in New York, is coming to visit.

The book which you gave me was very interesting.

The artist whose paintings are famous has an exhibit.





Activity 2

Write a short paragraph about your favorite place. Use at least three relative clauses. Describe the place, the people there, and why you like it.

Review

* Relative clauses add information about a noun:

Relative clauses provide additional details about a noun, helping to make sentences more informative and descriptive. They help clarify which specific person, thing, or place is being referred to, or they can add extra, non-essential information.

* Defining vs. non-defining relative clauses:

Defining relative clauses:

Provide essential information necessary to identify the noun. They are integral to the meaning of the sentence and do not use commas (e.g., The student who studies hard will succeed).

Non-defining relative clauses:

Add extra, non-essential information about the noun. They are separated by commas and the sentence would still make sense without them (e.g., My brother, who lives in Spain, is coming to visit).



Any questions?