

## Relative Pronouns: Who, Which, That, Whom

**FORM:**            **WHO    WHICH    WHOM    THAT**

“**Who**”, “**which**”, “**whom**” and “**that**” are relative pronouns. They refer to a noun or pronoun which precedes them. They are used to join two clauses. (A “**clause**” is a noun + a verb.) The clause that starts with the relative pronoun is called a **relative clause**.

*I have a brother. He is studying in university.  
I have a brother who is studying in university.*

**USE:**            “**Who**” is used when referring to people in the subject position of the sentence.

*The lady who gave me directions was really nice.*

“**Whom**” is used in formal English to replace a person in the object position.

*I like the teacher. That is the teacher.  
That is the teacher whom I like.*

“**Which**” is used when referring to things.

*The restaurant which has great sushi is just around the corner.*

“**That**” can be used for both people and things.

*The lady that gave me directions was really nice.  
The restaurant that has great sushi is just around the corner.*

Note: In clauses when you usually have to put **commas (,)** because of further information, you cannot use “**that**”. You have to use “**who**” for people and “**which**” for things.

*My sister, who is 18, will be going to college next year.*

Whom and Which after prepositions:

*Who am I speaking to? To whom am I speaking?*

*Who are you going with? With whom are you going?*

*That is the restaurant in which I met my husband.*

*Fill in the blanks with the appropriate RELATIVE PRONOUN.*

Frank: Do you know Debbie?

Joe: Who's Debbie?

Frank: She's the hottest girl in school! Debbie is the girl \_\_\_\_\_ sits beside you in Mr. White's class.

Joe: What? I have no idea \_\_\_\_\_ you are talking about.

Frank: She lent you the dictionary \_\_\_\_\_ you lost last year.

Joe: Ohhh. The girl \_\_\_\_\_ you are always staring at.

*Fill in the blanks with WHO or WHICH.*

1. The boy \_\_\_\_\_ is with him is his son.
2. The table \_\_\_\_\_ arrived is not the one I ordered.
3. This is the kind of exercise \_\_\_\_\_ I like best.
4. Was it Greta \_\_\_\_\_ won the drawing?
5. The chair \_\_\_\_\_ he painted is in the garage.
6. He is the salesman \_\_\_\_\_ sold me those shoes.
7. Was it George \_\_\_\_\_ telephoned you this morning?
8. The book \_\_\_\_\_ I read was excellent.
9. The women \_\_\_\_\_ are in my class are very clever.
10. The car \_\_\_\_\_ he bought is in front of the house.
11. It was Jim \_\_\_\_\_ telephoned you.
12. The boy \_\_\_\_\_ delivers the newspaper is my nephew.
13. My friend \_\_\_\_\_ is Italian speaks several languages.
14. It is a place in \_\_\_\_\_ you will feel at home.

*Complete the following sentences using THAT.*

1. The papers \_\_\_\_\_
2. The men \_\_\_\_\_
3. The children \_\_\_\_\_
4. The pen \_\_\_\_\_
5. The dog \_\_\_\_\_

Intermediate 1 – Exercise 30 – Relative Pronouns: Who, Which, That, Whom

*Write a definition for the words given below, using a RELATIVE PRONOUN.*

1. (a veterinarian) \_\_\_\_\_
2. (a thief) \_\_\_\_\_
3. (a consultant) \_\_\_\_\_
4. (a janitor) \_\_\_\_\_
5. (a farmer) \_\_\_\_\_
6. (a pilot) \_\_\_\_\_

*Select one of the following endings and make it into a RELATIVE CLAUSE to complete a sentence.*

**it has a very large bill**

**it contains information on all subjects**

**it gives proper  
directions**

1. It seems that this map is the only one \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the name of the bird \_\_\_\_\_
3. An encyclopaedia is a book \_\_\_\_\_