

SENTENCE ESSENTIALS - ENC 0002
RELATIVE CLAUSES – REVIEW

A **RELATIVE CLAUSE** is a **DEPENDENT CLAUSE** that begins with a **RELATIVE PRONOUN** [*who/whom/whose/which/that*] and refers back to a noun or pronoun, which is called the **ANTECEDENT**.

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

- **who/whom/whose** refer to **PEOPLE**

use *who* as the subject of the relative clause

*Renee, **who lives in Orlando**, has two children.*

[*who lives* are the subject and verb of the relative clause, which refers to the antecedent *Renee*]

use *whom* when the relative clause already has a subject

*Renee, **whom I lived with in college**, has two children.* [*I* is the subject of the rel. clause]

use *whose* when the relative clause shows ownership

*The person **whose name is called** must read his paper.* [*whose name is called* refers to *person*]

WATCH OUT! Do NOT confuse *whose* and *who's*.

- *whose* shows possession: *Whose car is that?*

- *who's* is a contraction for *who is/has*: *Who's [who is] going with us? Who's [who has] seen her?*

- **which** refers to **THINGS** and begins a clause that is **NOT** essential to identify the antecedent

*Marcie found her wallet, **which had all her money**.* [*which....money* is not necessary to identify the wallet]

- **that** refers to **THINGS** and begins a clause that **IS** essential to identify the antecedent

*The salad **that you brought** was delicious.* [*that you brought* is necessary to identify which salad]

WATCH OUT! The verb in the relative clause is **NOT** the verb of the sentence.

PLACEMENT OF RELATIVE CLAUSES

A relative clause must be placed as close to its antecedent as possible to avoid confusion.

Confusing: *I saw the dog running down the street **that got loose from my neighbor's yard**.*

Better: *I saw the dog **that got loose from my neighbor's yard** running down the street.*

AGREEMENT OF RELATIVE CLAUSES

The verb in the relative clause must **AGREE** in number with its antecedent.

*The man **who lives next door** is from Canada.* [*lives* is singular to agree with the antecedent *man*]

*The people **who live next door** are from Canada.* [*live* is plural to agree with the antecedent *people*]

PUNCTUATION OF RELATIVE CLAUSES

- **that** clauses do **NOT** take commas [because they are essential to identify the antecedent]

*I did not like the last book **that I read**.* [*that I read* is essential to identify which book so does not take a comma]

- **which** clauses **DO** take commas [because they are not essential to identify the antecedent]

*We sold our house, **which was destroyed in the hurricane**.* [*which was ...* is not necessary to identify which house]

- **who** clauses **DO** take commas **WHEN THEY REFER TO A SPECIFIC PERSON** and are therefore not necessary to identify the antecedent

*My next door neighbor, **who is out of town**, is from Greece.* [*who is out of town* is NOT necessary to identify the neighbor]

*Jacob, **who is visiting relatives**, lives next door.* [*who is visiting relatives* is NOT necessary to identify Jacob]

- **who** clauses do **NOT** take commas when they are **NECESSARY** to identify an **UNSPECIFIED PERSON**

*The man **who lives next door** is from Greece.* [*who lives next door* is necessary to identify which man]

Underline the RELATIVE CLAUSES in the following sentences and circle the ANTECEDENTS.

1. Many people practice the religion that their parents practiced.
2. The dog ate my favorite pair of shoes, which are Nike sneakers.
3. Calle Ocho, which takes place on Eighth Street every year, has grown into a huge festival.
4. Kiefer Sutherland, who stars in the TV show *24*, is Donald Sutherland's son.
5. My new neighbor, whose car is parked in our driveway, just moved here from Orlando.
6. I'm not familiar with the movie that you rented.

Fill in WHO / WHOM / WHOSE / WHICH / or THAT.

7. My mother, _____ was born in Russia, has forgotten how to speak Russian.
8. The playground _____ is being built in the park will be dedicated to Kate.
9. Princess Diana, _____ face is familiar around the world, was a great humanitarian.
10. Tom Hanks, _____ I have admired for years, is starring in *The DaVinci Code*.
11. The next X-Men movie, _____ opens next month, is the final episode of the series.
12. I wonder _____ will be the next anchor of the *Today* show.

Fill in the blanks with WHOSE or WHO'S.

13. The chef _____ just been hired at Flemings just moved here from New York.
14. My brother, _____ finished his service in the Navy, has decided to go back to college.
15. Amy, _____ husband is from Brazil, has had to learn to speak Portugese.
16. _____ going to tell Paul that he has to work again tonight?
17. _____ baseball made the dent in my car?
18. We just adopted a puppy _____ mother was a Great Dane.

Insert COMMAS where necessary; mark the sentences that need no commas as CORRECT.

19. Any student who didn't turn in a paper must see me after class.
20. Juan whom I know from college has just moved to Miami.
21. I just submitted for publication the short story that I wrote a year ago.
22. St. Augustine which is the oldest city in the United States has an amazing old Spanish fort.
23. I completed all the papers that were necessary to receive the loan.
24. I don't anyone who can compete with that last score.
25. The Grants who lost their citrus trees to canker have replanted their yard with palms.