

3. Sandy hurt (hissself, himself) while repairing the car.
4. Jason is lucky that the baseball didn't hit (he, him).
5. My daughter is older than (your, yours).
6. They are expected to do the work by (theirselves, themselves).
7. His book is interesting. (My, Mine) is boring.
8. Nancy taught (hers, herself) to play the piano.
9. We haven't seen (they, them) since they visited last year.
10. Present the awards to him and (she, her).
11. Jose paints as well as (they, them).
12. Don't get up! It's only (I, me).
13. We need to give (us, ourselves) a rest from this job.

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Relative pronouns relate to the word(s) that precedes them. They introduce a **dependent relative clause** (a clause that by itself does not convey a complete idea). This clause usually eliminates the repetition of the same word(s) and uses one of the following pronouns to connect the two clauses:

Used only for persons

who
whom
whose (other living things)

Used only for things

that
which

Who and *whom* refer only to persons. *Who* is the subject (performer) of the action of the verb.

↓
The girl ***who is waving to us*** is my cousin. (girl = who = subject)
↓ ↓ ↓
subject + verb + indirect object

↓
We have met the singer ***who will replace Joan***. (singer = who)

Who functions as a subject in its clause (*who is waving to us*) (*who will replace Joan*) and refers to the girl (singer). These clauses do *not* convey a complete idea.

Whom is the object (receiver) of the action. (See a detailed explanation on *who* and *whom* in the Part 2: ESL Advanced Grammar.)

↓ ↓
The guest speaker is the one ***to whom you should address the letter***.

Whom is the second receiver of the action ***should address***
(guest speaker = to whom)

↓
The artists ***about whom Jack spoke*** are visiting us today.
(artists = about whom)

Whose shows possession and usually refers to people or other living things.

↓
The senator ***whose daughter is my friend*** spoke to us last night.
(senator has a daughter = my friend)

That and *which* are used with things. In informal English *that* may also be used with persons. *That* clauses are vital to the sentence and are *never* set off by commas.

↓
I have the book ***that*** you ordered last week. (a specific book)

↓
The bill ***that you received*** last week needs to be paid tomorrow. (specific bill)

Which clauses are not always absolutely necessary to the sentence. When they do *not* limit the meaning of the main clause, they are set apart by commas.

Hal bought a washer, **which was delivered yesterday**.

(*Which was delivered yesterday* is not vital to the sentence.)

Monaco, **which is a very small country**, is near the South of France.

(Whether the county is large or small, it doesn't change its location. This information is not vital to the fact that Monaco is near the South of France.)

When you combine two independent sentences, you will have two clauses, each containing a subject and a verb. The **relative pronoun** will connect the two clauses and keep the speaker or writer from repeating the same words.

Glen needs a secretary. The secretary must speak Spanish.

S + V + C S + V + C

Glen needs a secretary **who must speak Spanish**.

S + V + C S + V + C

(main clause) (dependent clause)

Perry is planning a vacation. The vacation will be relaxing and educational.

S + V + C S + V + C

Perry is planning a vacation, **which will be relaxing and educational**.

S + V + C S + V + C

(main clause) (dependent clause)

Our company has many employees. The employees' job is to produce quality products.

Our company has many employees, **whose job is to produce quality products**.

S + V + C S + V + C

(main clause) (dependent clause)

Teri sent money to her son. Her son's house was damaged by the hurricane.

Teri sent money to her son [↓] **whose house was damaged by the hurricane.**

S + V + C + C

(main clause)

S + V + C (agent)

(dependent clause)

EXERCISE 5

Combine each sentence by using a **relative pronoun** and eliminate the repeated words. Use *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *which*, and *that*.

Example: Omar met a teacher. The teacher spoke Arabic.

Answer: Omar met a teacher who spoke Arabic.

1. I met an actor. The actor's picture won an oscar.

2. We bought a house. The house cost us \$150,000.

3. Sally introduced me to her boyfriend. Her boyfriend is a civil engineer.

4. Maureen bought a dress. The dress cost \$45. She had to return it.

5. Jake gave Isabel a ring. The ring had diamonds and rubies.

6. Mrs. Duncan is talking to her students. The students' projects are due on Friday.

7. Norman lives with his sister. His sister is a nurse.

8. The soldiers were injured in combat. The president is awarding medals to the soldiers.

9. Mr. Franklin graded the tests. We took the tests on Friday.

10. The director knows the candidate. The candidate was chosen to be the manager.

EXERCISE 6

Using *formal* English, circle the correct pronoun in these sentences.

1. We have a package for the man (who, which) stopped by today.
2. I met the author (who, whose) book is on the best-seller list.
3. Are you sure that the book (that, which) has all the art pictures is for this class?
4. That young man (who, whom) you met seems very nice.
5. I'll be writing to the director (who, whom) you saw Monday.
6. Will you be presenting the slides (that, which) you took in Canada last summer?
7. The steaks, (that, which) my brother gave us, are delicious.
8. The fish (that, which) Lonnie caught is a big bass.
9. The income tax (that, which) he paid last year is accurate.
10. My friend (who, whose) father is a dentist wants to be an artist.
11. Henry finally found his wallet, (that, which) he lost.
12. Juan Valdez's coffee, (that, which) comes from Colombia, tastes the best of all.