Relative Clauses

# Step 1: Remember

Relative clauses add information to sentences by using a relative pronoun such as who, that or which. The relative pronouns we will use are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| who | where | whose |
| which | when | that |

# Step 2: Understand

Here are some examples of relative clauses using relative pronouns:

* Peter Pan, **who lived in Neverland**, can fly.
* This sandwich has peanut butter in it, **which I am allergic to**.
* The adventurer leapt to safety **when the boulder hurtled toward him.**
* I want to live in a place **where there is lots to do**.
* I won’t eat in a restaurant **whose cooks are rude**.
* “Can I have the pencil **that I gave you this morning**?” asked Jill.

In the above examples, the relative pronoun, which is underlined, adds more detail to the sentence by creating a relative clause.

# Step 3: Apply

Fill in the gaps using the relative pronouns. There may be more than one answer for some of them. Write the different ways that you find.

1. I am unhappy being in a place \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it always rains.
2. The sun was shining brightly, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was unusual for that time of year.
3. Robin Hood was a man \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was very generous to the poor.
4. In the summer, I am going to Spain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my family lives.
5. They were both wearing dresses \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were covered in a floral pattern.
6. I don’t like the clown \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nose is red and bright.
7. I lost the present \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they gave me.
8. I helped an old person \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ couldn’t cross the road by themselves.

# Step 4: Analyse and Improve

The following simple sentences can be improved by rewriting them with a relative clause. Below is an example:

1. We have lots of cousins. They live all over the world.

*could become:*

1. We have lots of cousins **who** live all over the world.

Again, there might be more than one way to answer them. Write the different ways that you know.

1. The man was in the hall. He was playing the piano.
2. The bear was in its cave. It was hungry.
3. Many of us enjoy spaghetti. It can be quite messy.
4. Everyone is talking about this book. It’s great!
5. The rain fell heavily. It had not been forecast.
6. I fixed the machine quickly. It had broken.
7. There is a house on the hill. It is haunted.
8. My brother has a broken arm. It was an accident.

# Step 5: Create

Write your five examples of sentences using relative clauses to add more information to the sentence.