UNIT 17. DEFINING AND NON-DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

UNIT 26. RELATIVE PRONOUNS


Adapted from:
1. **THAT INSTEAD OF WHO, WHICH.**

Can we use *that* instead of *which* and *who* in the following sentences?:

A.1.) *That's the car which/that I used to own.*
A.2.) *That car, which/that I used to own 10 years ago, has recently been removed from the market.*

B.1.) *The hotel which/that was above the cliff was impressive.*
B.2.) *The hotel, which/that was a hundred years old, was very comfortable.*

C.1.) *That is the person who/that I sold my car to.*
C.2.) *My cousin Daniel, who/that I will be seeing soon, lives in the USA.*

D.1.) *That is the person who/that bought my car.*
D.2.) *My cousin Daniel, who/that will be nine soon, lives in the USA.*
1. THAT INSTEAD OF WHO, WHICH

A.1.) That’s the car which/that I used to own.
DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

A.2.) That car, which I used to own 10 years ago, has recently been removed from the market.
NON-DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.1.) The hotel which/that was above the cliff was impressive.
DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.2.) The hotel, which was a hundred years old, was very comfortable.
NON-DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.1.) That is the person who/that I sold my car to.
DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.2.) My cousin Daniel, who I will be seeing soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.1.) That is the person who/that bought my car.
DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.2.) My cousin Daniel, who will be nine soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

THAT can only be used instead of who or which in defining object and subject relative clauses.
That is only correct in A.1.) B.1.) C.1.) and D.1.).
• *That cannot be used after a preposition:
  ○ *This is the car (that/which) I paid € 8,000 for.
    (Everyday speech).
  ○ *This is the car for which I paid € 8,000.
    (Formal).
  ○ *This is the car for that I paid € 8,000.
2. OMITTING THE RELATIVE PRONOUN

Can you omit the relative pronoun in the following sentences?

A.1.) That’s the car which/that I used to own.
DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

A.2.) That car, which I used to own 10 years ago, has recently been removed from the market.
NON-DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.1.) The hotel which/that was above the cliff was impressive.
DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.2.) The hotel, which was a hundred years old, was very comfortable.
NON-DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.1.) That is the person who/that I sold my car to.
DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.2.) My cousin Daniel, who I will be seeing soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.1.) That is the person who/that bought my car.
DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.2.) My cousin Daniel, who will be nine soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.
2. OMITTING THE RELATIVE PRONOUN

A.1.) That’s the car Ø I used to own.
DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

A.2.) That car, which I used to own 10 years ago, has recently been removed from the market.
NON-DEFINING THING OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.1.) The hotel which/that was above the cliff was impressive.
DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

B.2.) The hotel, which was a hundred years old, was very comfortable.
NON-DEFINING THING SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.1.) That is the person Ø I sold my car to.
DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

C.2.) My cousin Daniel, who I will be seeing soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON OBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.1.) That is the person who/that bought my car.
DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

D.2.) My cousin Daniel, who will be nine soon, lives in the USA.
NON-DEFINING PERSON SUBJECT RELATIVE CLAUSE.

The relative pronoun can only be omitted in defining object (thing and person) relative clauses.
The relative pronoun can only be omitted in A.1) and C.1).
3. WHOSE

- *Whose* means *of whom* and *of which*.
- Do we use it in defining or non-defining relative clauses?
- Can we omit it?
  - *The shop whose clothes I love is about to close.*
  - *This shop, whose clothes I love, is about to close.*
3. WHOSE

Whose means **of whom** and **of which**.

Do we use it in defining or non-defining relative clauses? **BOTH**.

Can we omit it? **NO!**

*The shop whose clothes I love is about to close.*

*This shop, whose clothes I love, is about to close.*
4. WHOM

- *Whom* is the object form of *who*.

- It can be used as:
  - A) the object of a verb:
    - *The man whom I met at the reception is the Ambassador.* (Formal).
  - B) after prepositions:
    - *This is the person I sold my car to.* (Everyday speech).
    - *This is the person to whom I sold my car.* (Formal).
5. WHAT

Which of the following sentences is correct?:

- Everything *what* they said was true.
- I gave her all the money *what* I had.
- *Did you hear* *what* they said?
WHAT = the thing(s) that.

- *Everything what they said was true.
- Everything (that) they said was true.
- *I gave her all the money what I had.
- I gave her all the money (that) I had.
- Did you hear what they said?

Remember: (...) you can omit it.