

Defining Relative Clauses

What is a Clause

- A clause is a group of words that contains both a subject and a predicate. Although a clause can sometimes act as a sentence since it contains both a subject and a verb, it is not necessarily a complete sentence. That is to say; not every clause is a complete sentence.

- **Relative clauses** give us information about the person or thing mentioned.
- **Defining relative clauses** give us essential information – information that tells us who or what we are talking about.
- **Examples:**
 - The woman who lives next door works in a bank.
 - These are the flights that have been cancelled.

- **who/that**

- We can use who or that to talk about people. that is more common and a bit more informal.

- She's the woman **who** cuts my hair.
- He's the man **that** I met at the conference.

- **which/that**

- We can use which or that to talk about things. that is more common and a bit more informal.

- There was a one-year guarantee **which** came with the TV.
- The laptop **that** I bought last week has started making a strange noise!

- Whose
- refers to the person that something belongs to.
- He's a musician **whose** albums have sold millions.

Practice: Join these sentences with a relative pronoun
(who, which, that, whose)

- 1. I watched a film last week. The film was awful.
- 2. 1. The parcel reached me this morning. My brother sent it.
- 3. This is the house. Jack built it.
- 4. I met a woman. Her husband is a famous producer.
- 5. I really like the car. I bought it last year.