



Unit 63 – Relative Pronouns 2 (*My parents, who live in Canada, are retired..*)

A) Relative pronouns are used to introduce relative clauses. These relative clauses tell us more information about people, ideas, things, etc.

-> There are two types of relative clauses -> i) defining & ii) non-defining:

i) Defining – defining relative clauses make it clear which person or thing we are referring to:

- o Elon Musk is a CEO. He works very hard. -> Elon Musk is a CEO **who** works very hard.
-> It is clear that the person that works hard is Elon Musk. Elon Musk is the **subject**.

-> However, we can leave out the relative pronoun if it is the **object** of the relative clause:

- o The picture ~~that~~ my sister drew is beautiful. -> **that (the picture)** is the **object**
-> **my sister** = the **subject**

Note: -> Michael Jordan is a star ~~who he~~ won six titles. -> who is the subject of won, so we don't need **he**
-> The picture ~~that~~ my sister drew ~~it~~ is over there. -> that is the object of drew, so we don't need **it**

ii) Non-defining – we also use relative clauses to give **more information** about the person, thing, etc.:

- o Elon Musk, who is CEO of Tesla, works hard.
-> the relative clause (*who is CEO of Tesla*) does not tell you which person the speaker means.
-> We already know that this person is Elon Musk.
- o We had strawberry shortcake, which I enjoy.
- o I met my old friend last night, which was nice.

Note: -> with non-defining relative clauses, commas are used to separate them from the sentence.

Note: -> with non-defining relative clauses, **that** cannot be used:

- o Elon Musk, ~~that~~ **who** is CEO of Tesla, works hard. **Also:** -> the pronoun cannot be left out:
- o We had strawberry shortcake, **which** I enjoy. **Not:** -> ~~We had strawberry shortcake, I enjoy.~~

C) Whose is the possessive form of who:

- o This is my friend, whose team will play tonight. -> whose team = **his** team

-> whom is the object of a verb or preposition:

- o This is my friend, **whom** you **know** from school. -> whom is the object of **know**

Note: -> These days, instead of **whom**, we normally use **who** in spoken and written communication:

- o This is my friend, **who** we'll watch tonight. This is my friend, **who** you know from school.

D) Quantifiers and numbers are sometimes used with relative pronouns:

All of which/whom	One of which/whom	A few of which/whom	Many of which/whom
Lots of which/whom	Most of which/whom	Two of which/whom	None of which/whom

- o I have three cats, **one of which** is a Siamese.
- o I've been to several countries, **a few of which** I have fond memories.
- o There are 10 people in my class, **most of who(m)** I'm close with.



Unit 63 – Exercises:

63.1 – In modern English, **whose** is often used in questions. Complete the questions using **whose**.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. To whom does this bike belong to? | 1. <u>Whose bike is this?</u> |
| 2. To whom does that book belong to? | 2. _____. |
| 3. To whom do these glasses belong to? | 3. _____. |
| 4. To whom does this laptop belong to? | 4. _____. |
| 5. To whom do these jeans belong to? | 5. _____. |

63.2 – Match the sentences to make **non-defining relative clauses** using **which**.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Sara studied hard in high school | a) which meant I had to walk home from the park. |
| 2. My bike got a flat tire today | b) which means school is canceled today. |
| 3. The market in my neighborhood closed | c) which made it easier for her to enter medical school. |
| 4. Our family just got a dishwasher | d) which makes it easier to clean up after dinner. |
| 5. My neighbor's dog barked all night | e) which means I have to walk further to get groceries. |
| 6. There was a snowstorm last night | f) which is why I'm so tired today. |

63.3 – Combine the following sentences using **non-defining relative clauses**.

- Martin Luther King gave the "*I Have a Dream*" speech. He won the Nobel Peace Prize.
Martin Luther King, who won the Nobel Peace Prize, gave the "I Have a Dream" speech.
- Brad Pitt was seen at a local restaurant today. He's a famous actor.
_____.
- The Eiffel Tower is the most visited monument in the world. It was built in 1889.
_____.
- I took my car to the mechanic today. He told me I need to change the tires.
_____.
- The COVID-19 pandemic closed many schools. It meant students had to study from home.
_____.
- The Superbowl is one of the most-watched events on tv. It is held every January.
_____.
- Our house is for sale. We've lived in this house for over 20 years.
_____.
- We often go to our cottage in the summertime. It takes about 30 minutes by car.
_____.

63.4 – Use the information in the first sentence to complete the next sentence using **quantifiers**. (63-D)

- I went to class and saw a lot of new students. I recognized only two of them.
There were a lot of new students in class, most of whom I didn't recognize.
- Kevin has got two phones. He hardly ever uses one of them.
_____.
- There were over 10,000 people at the concert. Everyone was given a bracelet.
_____.
- We sent several emails to our customers. Nobody replied to the emails.
_____.