+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com · www.englisch-lehrer.com

B1 RELATIVE CLAUSES ≈ 27 MIN

Defining Relative Clauses – *practice on paper*

You know defining relative clauses - now reinforce person, thing, comma choice, and omission with fresh examples.

who	for people, which for things, that for both; defining information takes	**no comma**	, and an object pronoun can be omitted

NAME _____ DATE _____

YOUR BUILD 1 · SORTING ○ 2 · FILL-IN ○ 3 · CORRECT ○ 4 · WRITE ○

BRICK 1 · SORT BY SUBJECT OR OBJECT · APPROX. 4 MIN ●○○

Check the role of the relative pronoun. On the left, it is the **subject** and must remain. On the right, it is the **object** and can be omitted.

the engineer who designed the dashboard
the dashboard which tracks response times
the analyst that prepared the forecast
the tool that exports the data
the consultant who knows the market
the email (that) I forwarded
the candidate (who) we interviewed
the software (which) the team selected
the venue (that) Sara booked
the checklist (which) you shared

SUBJECT - PRONOUN STAYS	OBJECT - PRONOUN CAN GO

BRICK 2 · COMPLETE THE RELATIVE PRONOUN · APPROX. 6 MIN ●●○

Add the requested form, or leave the gap empty when the object pronoun should be omitted. Do not add a comma.

01 Use who: The technician _____ maintains our server is on holiday.
02 Use which: The tablet _____ sits by the door belongs to Eva.
03 Use that for a person: We need an adviser _____ understands small firms.
04 Use that for a thing: I want a calendar _____ sends automatic reminders.
05 Omit the object pronoun: The summary _____ we discussed is now final.
06 Omit the object pronoun: The colleague _____ you called will join us later.
07 Use which: The app _____ crashed twice has been replaced.
08 Omit the object pronoun: The documents _____ Leo scanned are in this folder.

YOUR BUILD · 1 · SORTING · 2 · FILL-IN · 3 · CORRECT · 4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE · APPROX. 7 MIN

Each sentence contains exactly one mistake with the pronoun, comma, or omission. Underline it and write the complete sentence correctly.

01 The trainer which leads the workshop is from Leeds.

02 We use a scanner who reads damaged labels.

03 The laptop, that I ordered, arrived this morning.

04 The assistant works upstairs helped me with the booking.

05 The supplier that we contacted him replied immediately.

06 The form what you need is available online.

BRICK 4 · WRITE PRECISE DESCRIPTIONS · APPROX. 8 MIN

Write one English sentence with a defining relative clause for each prompt. Make a deliberate choice about pronoun, comma, and omission.

01 Person as subject: describe a colleague who solves a specific problem.

02 Thing as subject: describe a device or program that performs a useful task.

03 Person as object: describe a client your team called yesterday, omitting the relative pronoun.

04 Thing as object: describe a document you read this morning, omitting the relative pronoun.

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ For people, I use who or that; for things, I use which or that.
- ☐ I do not use a comma with a defining relative clause.
- ☐ A relative pronoun used as the subject must remain.
- ☐ A relative pronoun used as the object can be omitted.

Not secure on every point yet? Mark the noun and the subject of the relative clause first, then try the task again.

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

01 **Subjekt - Pronomen bleibt** - the engineer who designed the dashboard
Who is the subject of designed and cannot be omitted.

02 **Subjekt - Pronomen bleibt** - the dashboard which tracks response times
Which is the subject of tracks and must remain.

03 **Subjekt - Pronomen bleibt** - the analyst that prepared the forecast
That performs the subject role before prepared.

04 **Subjekt - Pronomen bleibt** - the tool that exports the data
That is the subject of exports.

05 **Subjekt - Pronomen bleibt** - the consultant who knows the market
Who stands as the subject before knows.

06 **Objekt - Pronomen kann weg** - the email (that) I forwarded
I is the subject; that is the object and can be omitted.

07 **Objekt - Pronomen kann weg** - the candidate (who) we interviewed
We is the subject; who is the object and can be omitted.

08 **Objekt - Pronomen kann weg** - the software (which) the team selected
The team is the subject; which is the object and can be omitted.

09 **Objekt - Pronomen kann weg** - the venue (that) Sara booked
Sara is the subject; that is the omissible object.

10 **Objekt - Pronomen kann weg** - the checklist (which) you shared
You is the subject; which can be omitted as the object.

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

01 The technician **who** maintains our server is on holiday.
Who refers to the person and is the subject of maintains.

02 The tablet **which** sits by the door belongs to Eva.
Which refers to the thing and is the subject of sits.

03 We need an adviser **that** understands small firms.
That can refer to a person in a defining clause.

04 I want a calendar **that** sends automatic reminders.
That can refer to a thing in a defining clause.

05 The summary **[no pronoun]** we discussed is now final.
We is the subject; the object pronoun can be omitted.

06 The colleague **[no pronoun]** you called will join us later.
You is the subject; the pronoun would only be the object.

07 The app **which** crashed twice has been replaced.
Which refers to the thing and is the subject of crashed.

08 The documents **[no pronoun]** Leo scanned are in this folder.
Leo is the subject; the object pronoun can be omitted.

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

01 The trainer **who** leads the workshop is from Leeds.
Who refers to a person; which refers to things.

02 We use a scanner **which** reads damaged labels.
Which refers to the thing; who refers to people.

03 The laptop **that I ordered** arrived this morning.
Defining information stays beside the noun without commas.

04 The assistant **who** works upstairs helped me with the booking.
The relative clause needs who as the subject of works.

05 The supplier **that we contacted** replied immediately.
The object is already represented by that, so him is not added.

06 The form **that** you need is available online.
That refers directly back to form; what cannot do that here.

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your sentences may differ - check person or thing, subject or object, and the comma rule.

01 The colleague **who handles returns** can solve this problem.
Who refers to the person and remains as the subject.

02 We use a program **that checks duplicate orders**.
That refers to the thing and is the subject of checks.

03 The client **we called yesterday** accepted the new date.
We is the subject; the relative pronoun as object can be omitted.

04 The document **I read this morning** explains the process.
I is the subject; the object pronoun can be omitted.

NEXT BRICKS — KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PREREQUISITE
Who, Which, and That
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/relative-clauses-who-which-that

PAIR WITH THIS
Articles: General and Specific Meaning
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/articles-general-specific

ALL LESSONS
45+ free lessons
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons

HANOVER
Schaufelder Straße 11 · 30167
englisch-lehrer.com/hannover

BERLIN
Kurfürstendamm 30 · 10719
englisch-lehrer.com/berlin

ONLINE COURSES
englisch-lehrer.com/online
worldwide on Zoom

CONTACT
+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com