

A relative clause is a part of a sentence that provides more information about the subject. A defining relative clause identifies the subject we are talking about.

New language Defining relative clauses

Aa Vocabulary Personal characteristics

 **New skill** Describing people and jobs

57.1 KEY LANGUAGE DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

Defining relative clauses are used to describe exactly which person or thing we are referring to. Without this information, the meaning of the sentence changes.

Here the defining clause gives essential information about a person.



Here the defining clause gives essential information about a thing.



The diagram illustrates a sentence structure with a main clause and a defining relative clause. The main clause, 'I'm looking for a job', is in black text. A black bracket above it is labeled 'MAIN CLAUSE'. A purple bracket to its right, labeled 'DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSE', encloses the phrase 'that I'll enjoy.' in purple. An arrow points from the label 'Relative pronoun for things' to the word 'that'.

I'm looking for a job **that** I'll enjoy.

Relative pronoun for things

The defining clause can also go in the middle of the main clause.



57.2 HOW TO FORM DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

Defining relative clauses begin with a relative pronoun. English uses different relative pronouns to talk about people and things.

TIP

"That" is sometimes used as a relative pronoun for a person. While this is commonly used, it is not correct.

MAIN CLAUSE
She'd like to meet someone

RELATIVE PRONOUN

who

REST OF RELATIVE CLAUSE

is kind.

Use "who" as the relative pronoun for a person.

MAIN CLAUSE
I'm looking for a job

RELATIVE PRONOUN

that

REST OF RELATIVE CLAUSE

I'll enjoy.

Use "that" as the relative pronoun for a thing.



57.3 REWRITE THE SENTENCES USING DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

The woman is a doctor. She lives next door.

The woman who lives next door is a doctor.



1 I want to find a job. The job must be near my home.



2 They work with people. The people are interesting and unusual.



3 It is important to eat good food. The food should be fresh and healthy.



4 You should get daily exercise. The exercise should raise your heart rate.



5 Stella has married a man. The man is generous and friendly.





57.4 READ THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

48 JOBS

NURSE: FULL TIME

Rocklands Hospital

We are looking for a confident, qualified nurse who is efficient and caring to work in our busy medical team. The ideal candidate will be someone who enjoys working with the public. We particularly want someone who is cheerful and calm, even in difficult situations.

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER: PART TIME

Bingham's Entertainment

Wanted: an outgoing and fun-loving person with a good sense of humor to join our team of children's entertainers. We are looking for someone who is reliable and enjoys being around children. We will provide all the training for the right candidate.

Rocklands needs a nurse who is unqualified.

True False

1 Rocklands needs a nurse who is cheerful.

True False

2 The nurse should manage difficult situations well.

True False

3 Bingham's wants an entertainer who is shy.

True False

4 The entertainer must enjoy funny things.

True False

5 The entertainer should be unreliable.

True False

Aa 57.5 READ THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS AGAIN AND MATCH THE DEFINITIONS TO THE WORDS AND PHRASES

Not excited or nervous

1 Of a happy disposition

2 Good at looking after people

3 Sure about your abilities

4 Works in an organized way

5 Someone you can trust

6 Friendly and communicative

7 Likes having a good time

8 Appreciates funny things

Caring

Confident

Cheerful

Calm

Outgoing

Efficient

Reliable

Good sense of humor

Fun-loving





57.6 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO, THEN NUMBER THE SENTENCES IN THE ORDER YOU HEAR THEM



George is lonely. He's having coffee with his friend Tina, who has a solution.

- A I'd love to meet some people who are fun to be with.
- B I can introduce you to some people who will absolutely love you!
- C I have a job that is challenging and very interesting.
- D Yes, it's tough moving to a new place where you don't know many people.
- E There are lots of amazing people who live in this area.
- F I'll invite a group of friends who I think you'll find both interesting and great fun.



57.7 USE A DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSE TO COMBINE THE SENTENCES, THEN SAY THEM OUT LOUD

I enjoy working with people. At work people should be efficient and cheerful.

I enjoy working with people who are efficient and cheerful.



- 1 It's important to have a good boss. A good boss is confident and reliable.



- 2 It's good to have interesting work. The work should be challenging.



- 3 We are looking for a new secretary. The secretary should be calm and efficient.



- 4 I'm working on a project. The project is new and exciting.



57 ✓ CHECKLIST

Defining relative clauses

Aa Personal characteristics

Describing people and jobs