

II. Relative Clauses

There are four relative pronouns in English: who, which, that and whose.

who is for people

that is for people and things

which is only for people

whose is only for genitives

If **who/that/which** are the object, you can leave them out.

Schneide den Satz vor dem Relativpronomen ab und bestimme dann die Satzglieder, um herauszufinden, ob das Relativpronomen Subjekt oder Objekt ist.

This is the book that/which I like best

O S V

--> This is the book I like best.

1. Put in the correct relative pronoun. Is the relative pronoun for people or for things?

Becky is the girl _____ likes horses and Robert is the boy _____ likes football.

Horses are great animals _____ can run very fast. A ball _____ is too small for

football can be used for handball. Handball players _____ have the ball in their hands

mustn't kick it - they must throw it and mustn't kick it with their feet _____ they just use for

running - but not for kicking. But let's talk about school now. The children _____ go to

school have to work hard. The teachers _____ are at school are much older than the children

but they like each other. Sometimes, the desks _____ are in the classrooms are rather old

and the children _____ work on these desks aren't always happy. The exercise

_____ is here is too easy for you and is over now.

2. Put in the correct relative pronoun. Leave out the relative pronoun if it is an object pronoun.

The exercise _____ you are doing right now is more difficult than the first exercise. The

teacher _____ created this exercise likes creating exercises _____ are difficult. ... Ok,

let's talk about Becky again - no more stories about school. You know Becky is the girl

_____ likes horses and Thunder is the horse _____ she likes best. What about Robert?

- Well, he is a boy _____ likes football and Arsenal is the team _____ he likes best.

All the football players _____ play for Arsenal are idols (=Idole) for Robert _____

cannot play football as well as they can. Mesut Özil is a German _____ plays for Arsenal

London and he is the player _____ Robert met last week.

3. Put in the right pronoun: subject, object or genitive, i.e. *who, that, which* or *whose*.

Robert _____ dream it is to watch an Arsenal match in London and not on TV is on his way to the football ground. There he sees Becky _____ he likes and _____ dream it is to have her own horse. Now they are talking about their hobbies _____ are very important to them. Becky's father _____ job it is to sell cars is on his way to the football ground, too. Why? - Robert's team is the team _____ coach Becky's father is. So Becky's father is the one _____ does football practice with Robert's team. Their club _____ colours are red and white is not as good as Arsenal London. Becky's mum _____ isn't a football fan prefers horses. The horses _____ she likes best are the horses _____ owners are from London, too.

4. Make one relative clause out of these two main clauses. Do not change the tenses. Leave out the relative pronoun if possible.

1. Becky is a girl. She likes horses.
2. Robert likes football. He is a boy.
3. Becky's father is a football coach. He likes football.
4. Arsenal London is a great club. Arsenal London's coach is Arsène Wenger.
5. Becky went to the football ground. It is an old football ground.
6. Sarah met Becky. Becky was at the football ground before.
7. Becky went to the football ground. Its grass was green.
8. Becky dreams of her own horse. Its colour must be brown.
9. Sarah enjoys her riding lessons. They are much too short.
10. Sarah and Becky must do a lot of homework. They don't like homework.
11. This exercise is difficult. It is over now.

Solutions

1. Put in the correct relative pronoun. Is the relative pronoun for people or for things?

Becky is the girl **who/that** likes horses and Robert is the boy **who/that** likes football. Horses are great animals **that/which** can run very fast. A ball **that/which** is too small for football can be used for handball. Handball players **who/that** have the ball in their hands mustn't kick it - they must throw it and mustn't kick it with their feet **which/that** they just use for running - but not for kicking. But let's talk about school now. The children **who/that** go to school have to work hard. The teachers **who/that** are at school are much older than the children but they like each other. Sometimes, the desks **which/that** are in the classrooms are rather old and the children **who/that** work on these desks aren't always happy. The exercise **which/that** is here is too easy for you and is over now.

2. Put in the correct relative pronoun. Leave out the relative pronoun if it is an object pronoun.

The exercise **which/that** you are doing right now is more difficult than the first exercise. The teacher **who/that** created this exercise likes creating exercises **which/that** are difficult. ... Ok, let's talk about Becky again - no more stories about school. You know Becky is the girl **who/that** likes horses and Thunder is the horse **that/which** she likes best. What about Robert? - Well, he is a boy **who/that** likes football and Arsenal is the team **that/which** (you can leave out the pronoun here --> object) he likes best. All the football players **who/that** play for Arsenal are idols (=Idole) for Robert **who/that** cannot play football as well as they can. Mesut Özil is a German **who/that** plays for Arsenal London and he is the player **who/that** (you can leave out the pronoun here --> object) Robert met last week.

3. Put in the right pronoun: subject, object or genitive, i.e. *who*, *that*, *which* or *whose*.

Robert **whose** dream it is to watch an Arsenal match in London and not on TV is on his way to the football ground. There he sees Becky **who/that** (you can leave out the pronoun here --> object) he likes and **whose** dream it is to have her own horse. Now they are talking about their hobbies **that/which** are very important to them. Becky's father **whose** job it is to sell cars is on his way to the football ground, too. Why? - Robert's team is the team **whose** coach Becky's father is. So Becky's father is the one **who/that** does football practice with Robert's team. Their club **whose** colours are red and white is not as good as Arsenal London. Becky's mum **who/that** isn't a football fan prefers horses. The horses **that/which** (you can leave out the pronoun here --> object) she likes best are the horses **whose** owners are from London, too.

4. Make one relative clause out of these two main clauses. Do not change the tenses. Leave out the relative pronoun if possible.

1. Becky is a girl who/that likes horses. / Becky who/that is a girl likes horses.
2. Robert is a boy who/that likes football. / Robert who/that likes football is a boy.
3. Becky's father who is a football coach likes football. / Becky's father who likes football is a football coach.
4. Arsenal London whose coach is Arsène Wenger is a great club.
5. Becky went to the football ground which/that is an old football ground. / The football ground Becky went to is an old football ground.
6. Sarah met Becky who/that was at the football ground before.
7. Becky went to the football ground whose grass was green.
8. Becky dreams of her own horse whose colour must be brown.
9. Sarah enjoys her riding lessons which/that are much too short.
10. Sarah and Becky must do a lot of homework they don't like. / Sarah and Becky who/that don't like homework must do a lot of homework.
11. This exercise which is difficult is over now. / This exercise which is over now is difficult.