

Relative clauses

Defining relative clauses give essential/ important information about a person, place or object.

Relative pronouns

who/ that for people

which/ that for objects/ animals

where for places

whose - possessive

Julia is the woman **who/ that** works in the office with me.
Julia is the woman. **She** works in the office with me.

It's a self-help book **which/ that** teaches you how to relax.
It's a self-help book. **It** teaches you how to relax.

That's the house **where** I was born.
That's the house. I was born **there**.

Compare:

That's the house **which/ that** is for sale.
That's the house. **It** is for sale.

Frank is the man **whose** brother plays for Man United.
Frank is the man. **His** brother plays for Man United.

Omitting the pronouns *who*, *which*, and *that*:

She's the girl (**who/ that**) I met on the plane.
She's the girl. I met **her** on the plane.

Non-defining relative clauses give extra (non-essential) information about a person, place or object. see 10A

Compare:

My brother who lives in NY has 3 kids.
My brother, who lives in NY, has 3 kids.



