

10A

relative clauses

defining relative clauses (giving essential information)

- 1 Julia's the woman **who / that** works in the office with me. (5 29))
It's a self-help book **that / which** teaches you how to relax.
That's the house **where** I was born.
- 2 Is Frank the man **whose** brother plays for the Lakers?
It's a plant **whose** leaves change color in spring.
- 3 I just got a text from the girl (**who / that**) I met on the flight to Paris.
This is the new phone (**that / which**) I bought yesterday.

To give important information about a person, place, or thing use a relative clause (= a relative pronoun + subject + verb).

- 1 Use the relative pronoun *who / that* for people, *that / which* for things / animals, and *where* for places.
 - *That* is more common than *which* in defining clauses.
 - You cannot omit *who / which / that / where* in this kind of clause. NOT *Julia's the woman works in the office with me.*
- 2 Use *whose* to mean "of who" or "of which."
- 3 *who, which,* and *that* can be omitted when the verbs in the main clause and the relative clause **have a different subject**, e.g., *She's the girl I met on the plane.*
 - *where* and *whose* can never be omitted, e.g., NOT *Is that the woman dog barks?*

non-defining relative clauses (giving extra non-essential information)

This painting, **which** was painted in 1860, is worth millions (5 30)) of dollars.
Last week I visited my aunt, **who's** nearly 90 years old.
Burford, **where** my grandfather was born, is a beautiful little town.
My neighbor, **whose** son goes to my son's school, has just remarried.

- Non-defining relative clauses give extra (often non-essential information) in a sentence. If this clause is omitted, the sentence still makes sense.
This painting, which was painted in 1860, is worth millions of dollars.
- Non-defining relative clauses must go between commas (or a comma and a period).
- In these clauses, you can't leave out the relative pronoun (*who, which,* etc.)
- In these clauses, you can't use *that* instead of *who / which*. NOT *This painting, that was painted in 1860, is worth millions of dollars.*



This painting, which was painted in 1860, is worth millions of dollars.

a Complete with *who, which, that, where,* or *whose*.

- Mountain View is the area where Steve Jobs grew up.
- 1 Rob and Corinna, _____ have twins, often need a babysitter.
 - 2 The White House, _____ the president of the United States lives, is in Washington, D.C.
 - 3 The sandwich _____ you made me yesterday was delicious.
 - 4 The woman _____ lived here before us was a writer.
 - 5 Stieg Larsson, _____ books form the *Millennium Trilogy*, died in 2004.
 - 6 My computer is a lot faster than the one _____ you bought.
 - 7 The *Mona Lisa*, _____ has been damaged several times, is now displayed behind bulletproof glass.
 - 8 Look! That's the woman _____ dog bit me last week.
 - 9 On our last vacation we visited Stratford-Upon-Avon, _____ Shakespeare was born.
 - 10 We all went to the game except Marianne, _____ doesn't like basketball.
 - 11 That man _____ you saw at the party was my boyfriend!
 - 12 That's the park _____ I learned to ride a bike.

b Look at the sentences in a. Check ✓ the sentences where you could leave out the relative pronoun.

c Add commas where necessary in the sentences.

- Caroline, who lives next door to me, is beautiful.
- 1 This is the place where John crashed his car.
 - 2 The museum that we visited yesterday was amazing.
 - 3 Beijing which is one of the world's biggest cities hosted the 2008 Olympic Games.
 - 4 Michael Jackson's *Thriller* which was released in 1982 was one of the best-selling albums of the 80s.
 - 5 These are the shoes that I'm wearing to the party tonight.
 - 6 Sally and Joe who got married last year are expecting their first baby.