RELATIVE CLAUSES

CEFR Level B1 — Intermediate

English Language Worksheets | 4 Worksheets + Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Defining vs Non-Defining Clauses

One kind identifies; the other just adds extra information.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Look and learn**

Feature	Defining	Non-defining
Job	identifies which one (essential)	adds extra information (removable)
Commas?	no commas	commas around the clause
'that' allowed?	yes (who/which/that)	no — only who/which
Omit pronoun?	yes, if it's the object	never
Example	The man who called is my boss.	My boss, who called earlier, is nice.

*Test: if you can put the clause in brackets and the sentence still makes sense, it's **non-defining** — use commas.*

PART B — **Defining or non-defining?**

Read each sentence. Write D (defining) or ND (non-defining). Add commas where they are missing.

1. My uncle who lives in Canada is a pilot. → _____
2. The book that you lent me was fascinating. → _____
3. Paris which is the capital of France is beautiful. → _____
4. The students who fail the test can resit it. → _____
5. Mr Diaz whose car we borrowed is on holiday. → _____
6. The phone which I bought yesterday is broken. → _____

PART C — **Correct the mistakes**

Each sentence contains ONE mistake. Write the correction.

1. "My sister, that is a doctor, lives in Rome."
   Correction: _____
2. "The car who is parked outside is mine."
   Correction: _____
3. "London where I was born is very busy." (add commas)
   Correction: _____

4 “The man which you met is my teacher.”
Correction: _____

5 “The woman who she helped me was kind.”
Correction: _____

Score: _____ / 13

Worksheet 2: Omitting the Pronoun & Prepositions

Leave out the object pronoun, and learn where the preposition goes.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Cross out what you can omit**

If the relative pronoun is the OBJECT, it can be left out. If you can omit it, rewrite the sentence without it; if not, write 'cannot omit'.

1. The film that we saw last night was boring.
   _____
2. The people who invited us were lovely.
   _____
3. The dress which she wore was stunning.
   _____
4. The dog that barks next door kept me awake.
   _____
5. The email that I sent didn't arrive.
   _____

PART B — **Prepositions in relative clauses**

Informal (common)	Formal
the house that she lives in	the house in which she lives
the man who I spoke to	the man to whom I spoke
the tool that we opened it with	the tool with which we opened it

Rewrite each informal sentence in the formal style (preposition + which/whom).

1. The company that I work for is growing.
   → _____
2. The friend who I travelled with is from Spain.
   → _____
3. The chair that you were sitting on is broken.
   → _____
4. The person who I gave the keys to has left.
   → _____

Score: _____ / 9

Worksheet 3: whose, where, when, why & Combining

Possession, places, times, reasons — and joining sentences smoothly.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Complete with whose / where / when / why**

Complete each sentence with whose, where, when or why.

1. That's the reason _____ I left early.
2. This is the studio _____ the album was recorded.
3. She's an artist _____ paintings sell for millions.
4. I remember the summer _____ we drove across Europe.
5. Do you know anyone _____ car we could borrow?
6. Monday is the day _____ the results come out.

PART B — **Combine into one sentence**

Join each pair into a single sentence with a relative clause. Punctuate defining and non-defining clauses correctly.

1. I finally visited the museum. My mother used to work there.
   _____
2. This is Dr Khan. Her research changed the field.
   _____
3. That's the reason. He resigned for that reason.
   _____
4. We stayed at a hotel. It had a rooftop pool.
   _____
5. My best friend is moving abroad. I've known her since childhood.
   _____

Score: _____ / 11

Worksheet 4: Reading & Writing

Relative clauses in a real text, then in your own biography.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — **Analytical reading**

> *Frida Kahlo, whose paintings are now known worldwide, spent much of her life in the house where she was born — a building which is today a museum. The bus accident that injured her at eighteen was the moment when her life changed direction. During the long months when she could not walk, she began to paint self-portraits, which became the work for which she is most admired. The people who knew her described a woman whose courage matched her talent.*

1. Underline FIVE relative clauses in the text.

_____

2. Find one DEFINING and one NON-DEFINING clause. How do you know which is which?

_____

_____

3. Rewrite ‘the work for which she is most admired’ in an informal style.

_____

4. Which clause uses ‘whose’, and what does it tell us?

_____

_____

PART B — **Write a mini-biography**

Write a short biography (80–100 words) of a person you find interesting (real or invented). Use at least FOUR different relative clauses, including ONE non-defining clause with commas. Underline them.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word count: _____ Clauses underlined: _____ / 4

Score: _____ / 14

ANSWER KEY & TEACHER NOTES

For teacher use only — B1 Level Worksheets

Relative Clauses | English Language Worksheets

Worksheet 1 – Defining vs Non-Defining

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
B	D/ND + commas 1–6	**1 ND (My uncle, who lives in Canada, is a pilot), 2 D, 3 ND (Paris, which is the capital of France, is beautiful), 4 D, 5 ND (Mr Diaz, whose car we borrowed, is on holiday), 6 D**
C1	that in non-defining	**My sister, who is a doctor, lives in Rome. (no 'that' in non-defining)**
C2	car who	**The car which/that is parked outside is mine. (which for things)**
C3	missing commas	**London, where I was born, is very busy. (non-defining)**
C4	man which	**The man who(m)/that you met is my teacher. (who for people)**
C5	who she helped	**The woman who helped me was kind. (no double subject 'who she')**

Worksheet 2 – Omission & Prepositions

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
A1	object	**The film we saw last night was boring.**
A2	subject	**cannot omit (who is the subject)**
A3	object	**The dress she wore was stunning.**
A4	subject	**cannot omit (that is the subject)**
A5	object	**The email I sent didn't arrive.**
B1	formal	**The company for which I work is growing.**
B2	formal	**The friend with whom I travelled is from Spain.**
B3	formal	**The chair on which you were sitting is broken.**
B4	formal	**The person to whom I gave the keys has left.**

Worksheet 3 – whose/where/when/why & Combining

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
A	Gaps 1–6 in order	**why, where, whose, when, whose, when**
B1	combine	**I finally visited the museum where my mother used to work.**
B2	non-defining	**This is Dr Khan, whose research changed the field.**
B3	why	**That's the reason why he resigned.**
B4	defining	**We stayed at a hotel which/that had a rooftop pool.**
B5	non-defining	**My best friend, who(m) I've known since childhood, is moving abroad.**

Worksheet 4 – Reading & Writing

#	Question / Item	Answer / Guidance
A1	Five relative clauses	**Any five of: ‘whose paintings are now known worldwide’, ‘where she was born’, ‘which is today a museum’, ‘that injured her at eighteen’, ‘when her life changed direction’, ‘when she could not walk’, ‘which became the work …’, ‘for which she is most admired’, ‘who knew her’, ‘whose courage matched her talent’**
A2	defining vs non-defining	**Non-defining: ‘whose paintings are now known worldwide’ (commas, extra info). Defining: ‘that injured her at eighteen’ (no commas, identifies which accident).**
A3	informal rewrite	**the work (which/that) she is most admired for**
A4	whose clause	**‘whose paintings …’ and ‘whose courage matched her talent’ — ‘whose’ shows possession (the paintings/courage belong to Frida).**
B	Mini-biography (80–100 words)	**Up to 6 marks: 4 for four different relative clauses, 1 for a correct non-defining clause with commas, 1 for coherence/accuracy.**