

## Pronoun Relative Using Relative Pronouns

### Reading and Discussion

**Pronouns** are words that stand in for a noun. Instead of writing this:

- Susan rode Susan's bike to the park.

We could use pronouns and write this:

- She rode her bike to the park.

**She** and **her** are some of the personal pronouns we often use.

While we use personal pronouns the most, there are also other types of pronouns. Let's take a closer look at **relative pronouns**.

**Relative pronouns** are used as connecting words to introduce adjective clauses. An adjective clause does the same job as a single adjective. It modifies or describes a noun or a pronoun. Here are some common relative pronouns:

- **that, who, whom, what, which, whose, whomever, whoever**

Remember to use **who, whose, and whom** with proper nouns or names.

- Sparky, **who** helps the men at Fire Station 24, rides on the fire truck.
- Mrs. Sampson is the teacher **whom** everyone likes.

Use the relative pronouns **that** and **which** when talking about things or animals.

- The fire truck, **which** is parked next to the station, is shiny.
- Sam returned the bike **that** he had borrowed.

Relative pronouns are used to introduce a **dependent clause**. What is a dependent clause? A dependent clause is a group of words that cannot express a complete thought and cannot stand alone. Let's look at our last sentence.

- Sam returned the bike **that** he had borrowed.

The relative pronoun is **that**. It introduces **that he had borrowed**.  
Is this a complete thought? No. Could it stand alone as a sentence? No.

What about the rest of the sentence? **Sam returned the bike**.  
Is this a complete thought? Yes. Could that stand alone? Yes.

So the words **that he had borrowed** are dependent on the rest of the sentence, **Sam returned the bike**, to make sense. Therefore, **that he had borrowed** is a dependent clause that begins with a relative pronoun.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Activities

### **Activity A:** Let's Review.

1. What type of pronoun introduces an adjective clause? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does an adjective clause do? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name four relative pronouns.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name two relative pronouns used when talking about people?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
5. Name two relative pronouns used when talking about things?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is a dependent clause? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Activity B:** Underline the relative pronouns in the following sentences.

1. Mars, which is the largest planet, is often called the red planet.
2. Dad flew the kite that I had built.
3. The neighbor, who lives behind us, mows our lawn
4. The boat that has the yellow stripe is my favorite.
5. The children whose desks are neat will go to recess first.
6. Mrs. Thompson, whom all the children like, will be the story leader.

### **Activity C:** Write a sentence using **that** and a sentence using **who**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Activity D:** That or who? Fill in the blanks with the correct relative pronoun.

1. My brother, \_\_\_\_\_ likes to build model ships, won the boat-building contest.
2. The turtle \_\_\_\_\_ we keep in the aquarium is fun to watch.

## Answer Key

### Activity A

1. What type of pronoun introduces an adjective clause? Relative pronoun
2. What does an adjective clause do?  
It modifies or describes a noun or pronoun.
3. Name four relative pronouns. Answers may vary.  
that, who, whom, what, which, whose, whomever, whoever
4. Name two relative pronouns used when talking about people?  
Answers will vary. who, whom or whose.
5. Which two relative pronouns are used when talking about things?  
that and which
6. What is a dependent clause? A dependent clause is a group of words that cannot express a complete thought and cannot stand alone.

### Activity B

1. Mars, which is the largest planet, is often called the red planet.
2. Dad flew the kite that I had built.
3. The neighbor, who lives behind us, mows our lawn.
4. The boat that has the yellow stripe is my favorite.
5. The children whose desks are neat will go to recess first.
6. Mrs. Thompson, whom all the children like, will be the story leader.

### Activity C

1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.

### Activity D:

1. My brother, who likes to build model ships, won the boat building contest.
2. The turtle that we keep in the aquarium is fun to watch.