

8.1 Relative clauses

GR8.1)))

- 1 Steve Jobs, **who co-founded Apple**, was widely recognized as one of the most creative people in the computer industry.
- 2 He came up with ideas **that revolutionized** how we use computers.
- 3 The bicycle **you told me about** was on offer. I got it for €100 less than the recommended price.
- 4 That's the girl **whose** brother has just moved in next door to you.

There are two types of relative clause.

- An identifying relative clause identifies, classifies or defines a noun.

*Do you know anyone **who designs websites**?
Have you seen the DVD **I bought yesterday**?*

- A non-identifying relative clause gives us extra information about something already identified.

*James Reed, **who is a Harvard professor**, will be the main speaker at the conference.
He was born in Sheffield, **which is one of the UK's biggest cities**.*

- A relative clause begins with a relative pronoun. We use *who* for people and *which* for things. In an identifying relative clause, we can also often use *that* for both people and things.

*There are many people **who/that** have never used a computer.
I need some software **which/that** can edit songs.*

We can use *whom* for a person who is the object of a relative clause. However, this is often considered formal and in everyday English, we can generally use *who*.

*This is the person **whom/who** I told you about.*

*We do however always use **whom** after a preposition.*

*To **whom** it may concern, ...*

- We use *whose* to talk about possession.
*Is that the person **whose** party we went to last week?*
- In an identifying relative clause, we can leave out the relative pronoun when it is the object of the relative clause.
*This is the book I was telling you about. OR
This is the book **which** I was telling you about.
Is this the laptop you got for your birthday? OR
Is this the laptop **that** you got for your birthday?*
- In a non-identifying relative clause, we use commas to separate the clause from the rest of a sentence.
*Steve Jobs, **who died in 2011**, was one of the founders of Apple.*
- We can generally put a preposition at the end of a relative clause or before the relative pronouns *whom* or *which*. When we put a preposition before *whom* or *which*, it can sound rather formal or old-fashioned. Note that we cannot put a preposition before *that*.
*I know the man you were waiting for.
I know the man **for whom** you were waiting.*

- 1 Choose the correct options to complete these quotations about computers and the internet.

- 1 'We're entering a new world in *that / which* data may be more important than software.' (Tim O'Reilly)
- 2 'The future lies in designing and selling computers *who / that* people don't realize are computers at all.' (Adam Osborne)
- 3 'Your computer needn't be the first thing – / *who* you see in the morning and the last thing you see at night.' (Simon Mainwaring)
- 4 'Right now, computers, *which / that* are supposed to be our servants, are oppressing us.' (Jef Raskin)
- 5 'The internet is not just one thing, it's a collection of things – of numerous communications networks *that / who* all speak the same digital language.' (Jim Clark)

- 2 Complete the text using appropriate relative pronouns.

Skype is a telecommunications application software ¹ _____ specializes in providing video chat and voice calls from computers, tablets and mobile devices via the internet to other devices ² _____ have the Skype software. Users, ³ _____ can sign up for free and ⁴ _____ can contact one another for free, can also send instant messages, exchange files, send video messages and create conference calls.

Skype, ⁵ _____ was first released in August 2003 and ⁶ _____ headquarters are in Luxembourg, was created by a European team of programmers and entrepreneurs, ⁷ _____ also helped to develop the music-sharing application Kazaa.

In September 2005, Skype was acquired for \$2.6 billion by eBay, ⁸ _____ then sold it to Microsoft in May 2011 for \$8.5 billion.

- 3 Rephrase the sentences as one sentence that includes a relative clause.

- 1 I installed that new software. It's really good.
That new software which I installed is really good.
- 2 Have you seen the DVD? Danny lent it to us.
Have you seen _____
- 3 We went to a restaurant last night. It was awful.
The restaurant _____
- 4 I met someone the other day. He says he knows you.
I met _____
- 5 Did you get the email? I sent it this morning.
Did _____
- 6 There's that hotel. We stayed in it last year.
There's the _____
- 7 There was a photo on your desk. Where is it?
Where's _____

- 4 In which sentences in exercise 3 can we remove the relative pronoun? Cross out the relative pronoun in these sentences.

8.2 Participle clauses

GR8.2)))

- 1 **Hearing** a noise downstairs, Jason got up to investigate.
- 2 **Not speaking** any German, we missed the announcement and got on the wrong bus.
- 3 Often **referred to** as baby boomers, this generation is now coming up to retirement age.
- 4 **Having lived** abroad since she was a child, Catherine has never really felt English.

A participle clause begins with a **present participle** (e.g. *leaving, taking*) or a **past participle** (e.g. *left, taken*).

- A participle clause replaces a clause that includes a subject + verb and allows us to include information more concisely in a sentence. We generally use participles in this way in more formal contexts.

Being from the area, Jose knew his way around.

Because he was from the area, Jose knew his way around.

Not knowing the area, we got lost.

Because we didn't know the area, we got lost.

Born in the 1960s, he is part of the baby boomer generation.

As he was born in the 1960s, he is part of the baby boomer generation.

- We use *having* + past participle to talk about the past.

Having missed the bus, he was again late for work.

Having been born in 1998, she is quite likely to live in three different centuries.

- We can sometimes use a participle clause in place of a relative clause. The past participle has passive meaning and the present participle has active meaning.

People **born** between the early 1960s and the early 1980s are known as Generation X. (= who were born)

Who's the man **standing** next to the window? (= who is standing)

We stayed in a room **overlooking** the town square. (= which overlooked)

- 1 Complete the text with the correct participle form of the verbs in brackets.

1 _____ (already/increase) significantly over the last century, average life expectancy is now increasing at a faster rate than ever. And according to scientists, some children born at the beginning of the 21st century could live until the age of 130. A recent study ² _____ (look) at the effects of an ageing population on society predicts that life expectancy in the developed world, ³ _____ (currently/increase) at over one year per decade, will start to increase at a much quicker rate. This means that the average age at which the oldest few per cent of people die, ⁴ _____ (know) as the average maximum age, will soon be 120. And it is very likely that some people ⁵ _____ (live) today will live longer than this and reach 130.

- 2 Complete the second sentence so the meaning is similar to the first using a participle clause.

- 1 A bag which contained over a million dollars was found during the raid on the house.

_____ was found during the raid on the house.

- 2 We arrived late, so we were not allowed into the theatre.

_____, we were not allowed into the theatre.

- 3 Hamburg played really well and they won 4-1.

Hamburg played really well, _____.

- 4 Because I'm not American, I really don't understand American football.

_____, I really don't understand American football.

- 5 Joey Jones, who is called Jo-Jo by the fans, made his 500th appearance for the club on Saturday.

_____, made his 500th appearance for the club on Saturday.

- 6 They were woken by a noise, so they ran outside to see what had happened.

_____, they ran outside to see what had happened.

- 7 There were several people who were waiting for us.

There were _____.

- 8 Jake hadn't stayed in the hotel before, so he didn't know what to expect.

_____, Jake didn't know what to expect.