Las oraciones de relativo cumplen la misma función que la de un adjetivo y es la de complementar a un sustantivo o un pronombre de la oración principal que llamaremos antecedente. Dependiendo del antecedente utilizaremos uno u otro pronombre relativo.

**PRONOMBRES RELATIVOS**

**Who.** Se utiliza con personas

**Which.** Se utiliza con objetos y animales

**That.** Se utiliza tanto para personas como para objetos y animales excepto en las non-defining clauses

**Where.** Se utiliza para lugares; se puede sustituir por IN WHICH

**When.** Se utiliza para complementos de tiempo

**Whose.** Es el posesivo, se traduce por CUYO

**Whom.** En oraciones formales, tiene el mismo uso que WHO

**ORACIONES RELATIVAS ESPECIFICATIVAS (DEFINING CLAUSES)**

Las oraciones relativas específicativas tienen como función principal definir o diferenciar al antecedente.

**Ejemplos:**

Mario is the boy who lives next door. *Mario es el chico que vive en la puerta de al lado.*

This is the novel that/which you lent me. *Esta es la novela que me prestaste.*

Como podemos ver en estas oraciones el pronombre relativo se corresponde según el antecedente dado en cada oración.

Para poder diferenciarlas de las oraciones explicativas vamos a destacar 2 aspectos principales:

. No hay comas que separen la oración de relativo del resto como veremos en las non-defining.

. El pronombre relativo puede omitirse siempre que no funcione como sujeto.
Ejemplos:
This is the woman who cleans my house. Esta es la mujer que limpia mi casa. En esta oración no podría eliminarse el pronombre puesto que está actuando como sujeto.
I have bought the tickets for the concert that/which you would like to go. He comprado las entradas para el concierto al que querías ir. En esta oración sí podríamos eliminar el pronombre ya que la oración subordinada ya tiene un sujeto propio.
. El único pronombre que no puede omitirse es WHOSE.

ORACIONES RELATIVAS EXPLICATIVAS (NON-DEFINING CLAUSES)
Las oraciones explicativas tienen como función principal dar información no importante acerca del antecedente.

Ejemplo:
My mother, who lives in Holland, works as a clerk. Mi madre, que vive en Holanda, trabaja como administrativa.
Algunos aspectos que las diferencian de las oraciones especificativas:
. Los pronombres relativos nunca pueden omitirse

Ejemplo:
William Shakespeare, who was English, wrote many sonnets. William Shakespeare, que era inglés, escribió muchos sonetos.
Como vemos, la oración relativa carece de otro sujeto para que el pronombre pueda ser omitido.
. WHO o WHICH nunca pueden ser sustituidos por THAT. El uso de este pronombre no está permitido en estas oraciones.

EJERCICIOS
1. Complete with the correct relative pronoun
   a. That’s the boy was at the Skate Jam
   b. At the Skate Jam there were girls were competing
   c. That’s is the place I met Lisa
   d. Zena loves sports are dangerous or extreme
   e. Matt bought the computer game was made by XGames
2. Make non-defining relative clauses. Write the two possibilities.
   a. The tattoo was expensive. It looked quite ugly
   b. Paul wears Doc Martens boots. He is a biker
   c. Ella is very creative. She’s studying design
   d. Joe’s restaurant was full. I went there for a meal
   e. The Ritz Hotel had a fashion show. The hotel is famous
   f. Karl is my best friend. His brother is an architect
   g. Helen often buys new clothes. She loves shopping

3. Put the correct relative pronoun in the sentences:
   1. A castle is a place............a king or queen lives.
   2. An actress is a woman...........acts in films or theatre plays.
   3. This is the girl.............mother is from Canada.
   4. This is the time of the year...........many people suffer from hayfever.
   5. The flowers.............grow in the garden are beautiful.

4. Complete with the correct relative pronoun:
   a. The boy_________ is there is my brother
   b. The lady_________ son is an actor is my flatmate
   c. Spring is the period_______ more allergies exist
   d. Napoli,________ the Mafia triumphs, is a very beautiful town
   e. I lived in Camden Town_______ is a very famous place in London
   f. I love the films__________ are played by Joaquin Phoenix
5. Make relative sentences (defining and non-defining):

1. We spent our holiday in Scotland last year. Scotland is in the north of Great Britain. Last year we………………………………………………………………………………

2. People live in Scotland. They are called Scots. The people……………………………………………………………………………………………

3. We first went to Edinburgh. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland. We first……………………………………………………………………………………………

4. Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh. He wrote the Sherlock Holmes stories. Arthur Conan Doyle……………………………………………………………………

5. Then we visited a lake. It is in the Highlands. The lake……………………………………………………………………………………………………

6. Loch Ness is 37 km long. People know it for its friendly monster. Loch Ness…………………………………………………………………………………………

7. There we met an old man. He told us that he had seen Nessie. An old man…………………………………………………………………………………………

8. We then travelled to a mountain. The mountain is near the town of Fort William. We then…………………………………………………………………………………………

9. The mountain is the highest mountain in Great Britain. It is called Ben Nevis. The mountain…………………………………………………………………………………………

10. I sent you a postcard. It was written on the summit of Ben Nevis. The postcard…………………………………………………………………………………………
6. Complete with the correct relative pronoun:
Charlie Chaplin, _______ full name was Charles Spencer Chaplin, was one of the most talented comedians of all time. The little man_______ made thousands of people laugh was born in London on 16 April 1889. Chaplin, ________ parents were music hall entertainers, started his career very early in life. Me made his first stage appearance in 1894, _______ he was only five years old. In 1910 he left England and moved to the USA, ________ he made most of his films. His first film, ______ was called ‘Making a Living’, was made in 1914. Chaplin, ______ was also a very talented director and composer, appeared in more than 80 films. In 1952 he moved to Switzerland, ________ he spent the rest of his life with his wife Oona and their children. Chaplin’s first film, _______ was called ‘A Countess from Hong Kong’, was made in 1967.

7. Complete with the correct relative pronoun
1. This is the bank……………was robbed yesterday.
2. A boy……………..sister is in my class was in the bank at that time.
3. The man………………robbled the bank had two pistols.
4. He wore a mask………………made him look like Mickey Mouse.
5. He came with a friend………………waited outside in the car.
6. The woman………………gave him the money was young.
7. The bag…………………..contained the money was yellow.
8. The people……………….were in the bank were very frightened.
9. A man……………………mobile was ringing did not know what to do.
10. A woman……………….daughter was crying tried to calm her.
11. The car………………..the bank robbers escaped in was orange.
12. The robber………………mask was obviously too big didn't drive.
13. The man drove the car was nervous.
14. He didn't wait at the traffic lights were red.
15. A police officer car was parked at the next corner stopped and arrested them.