



Spot the Clauses

To use relative clauses.



Sentences which have two or more clauses are called multi-clause sentences. A main clause makes sense by itself but a subordinate clause does not make sense by itself. The subordinate clauses in these sentences are relative clauses. They start with relative pronouns.

Highlight the clauses in each sentence. Choose two colours and use one to highlight main clauses and the other colour to highlight the relative clauses.

Look at these examples:

- My dog's fur, **which** is hard to brush, is very curly.
- Go and get a sticker from Mr Brown, **who** is standing at the finish line.
- Oranges, **which** contain lots of vitamins, are really good for you.

Now, have a go at the sentences.

- Alana, who has very shiny hair, always looks smart for school.
- My cousins live in Canada, which is a long way to go to visit!
- These three girls, who have worked very hard on their maths project, can have a prize each.
- The Peak District, which is an excellent place for walking, climbing and biking, is a national park in Derbyshire.
- The dog, who always jumps up at people, is called Spot.
- The film, which had me on the edge of my seat, was tremendously exciting!
- Look for the spelling in the dictionary, which is over there on the shelf.
- My brother, who has won many medals for his gymnastics, is competing in an event tomorrow.



Spot the Clauses **Answers**

- a. Alana, who has very shiny hair, always looks smart for school.
- b. My cousins live in Canada, which is a long way to go to visit!
- c. These three girls, who have worked very hard on their maths project, can have a prize each.
- d. The Peak District, which is an excellent place for walking, climbing and biking, is a national park in Derbyshire.
- e. The dog, who always jumps up at people, is called Spot.
- f. The film, which had me on the edge of my seat, was tremendously exciting!
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Challenge

Rewrite the multi-clause sentence shown in h) above, breaking it down into two simple sentences. You will have to take out the relative pronoun and put back the noun/pronoun it replaced.

e.g. Winston Churchill, who was the prime minister in the Second World War, was born in Oxfordshire.

Winston Churchill was born in Oxfordshire. He was the prime minister in the Second World War.



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Challenge

My brother is competing in an event tomorrow. He has won many medals for his gymnastics.



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Challenge

Rewrite each of the following multi-clause sentences, breaking them down into two simple sentences. You will have to take out the relative pronoun and put back the noun/pronoun it replaced.

e.g. Winston Churchill, who was the prime minister in the Second World War, was born in Oxfordshire.

Winston Churchill was born in Oxfordshire. He was the prime minister in the Second World War.

- The Peak District, which is an excellent place for walking, climbing and biking, is a national park in Derbyshire.



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b. The dog, who always jumps up at people, is called Spot.

c. The film, which had me on the edge of my seat, was tremendously exciting!

Now, write the following pairs of sentences so that each pair is combined to form one sentence. Add in a relative pronoun to do this.

E.g. My dog is the first to wake up in our house. He is an energetic animal.

My dog, who is an energetic animal, is the first to wake up in our house.

a. Look for the spelling in the dictionary, which is over there on the shelf.

b. My brother, who has won many medals for his gymnastics, is competing in an event tomorrow.



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- a. Alana, who has very shiny hair, always looks smart for school.
- b. My cousins live in Canada, which is a long way to go to visit!
- c. These three girls, who have worked very hard on their maths project, can have a prize each.

Challenge

- a. *The Peak District is a national park in Derbyshire. It is an excellent place for walking, climbing and biking.*
- b. *The dog is called Spot. She always jumps up at people.*
- c. *The film was tremendously exciting! It had me on the edge of my seat.*
- a. *Look for the spelling in the dictionary, which is over there on the shelf.*
- b. *My brother, who has won many medals for his gymnastics, is competing in an event tomorrow.*