

## RELATIVE CLAUSES

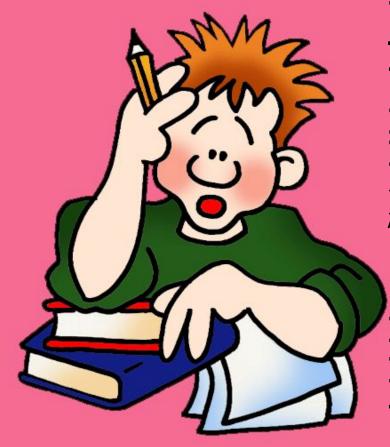
# Relative Clauses are formed by joining 2 sentences:

- "Peter is the student"+ "<u>He</u> comes from Glasgow":
- "Peter is the student **WHO** comes from Glasgow".
- "The books are on the table" + "They are mine":
  - "The books **WHICH** are on the table are mine".
- "I've just met Tom" + "Tom
  seems to be a nice guy": "I've
  just met Tom, WHO seems to
  be a nice guy"
  - "I'd love to visit London"+ "<u>It</u> is a beautiful city":
  - "I'd love to visit London, WHICH is a beatiful city"

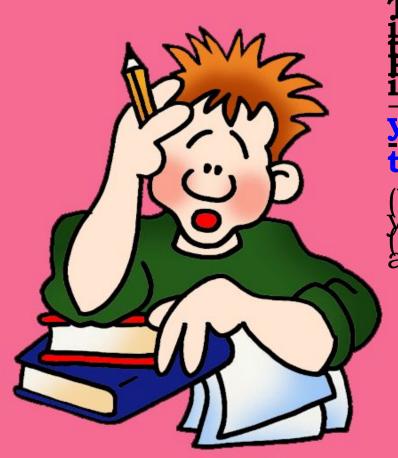
#### Remember:

When we join 2 sentences with a Relative Pronoun or Adverb, we have to omit the noun/ pronoun/ possessive that the Relative replaces (In the previous sentences: He/ They/Tom /it)

Relative Clauses go RIGHT AFTER the Noun they modify.



### 1. Defining Relative Clauses



They define, give us essential information about a general term or expression. Befining Relative Clauses are not put in commas:

- I talked to the man who gave you the news.

- I read the letter which came

(Which man? The one who gave you the news) the one that arrived this morning.)

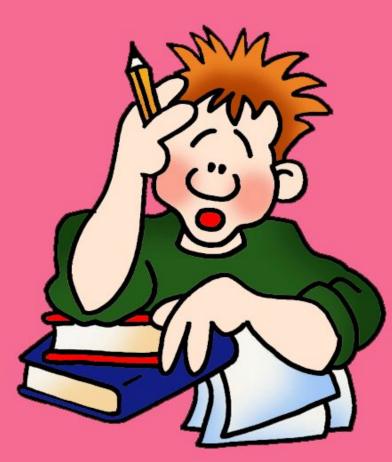
#### Remember:

Use WHO to refer to people and WHICH to refer to animals, things,

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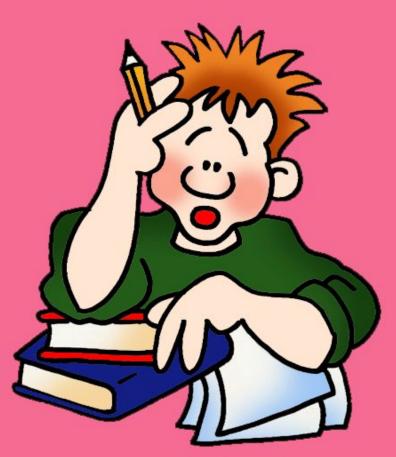
"THAT" can replace WHO and WHICH in Defining Relative Clauses:
Did you know the girl WHO/THAT came to the party yesterday?
The book WHICH/THAT I'm reading is very interesting.

# OMISSION OF WHO, WHICH AND THAT:



## WHO, WHICH and THAT can be the <u>Subject</u> of the Relative Clause:

- I've talked to the man WHO sold me his car. (Who replaces The man and is the Subject of the Clause "sold me his car")
- The dog **WHICH barks every night** is my
  neighbour's. (*Which* is the
  Subject of the clause
  "barks every night")



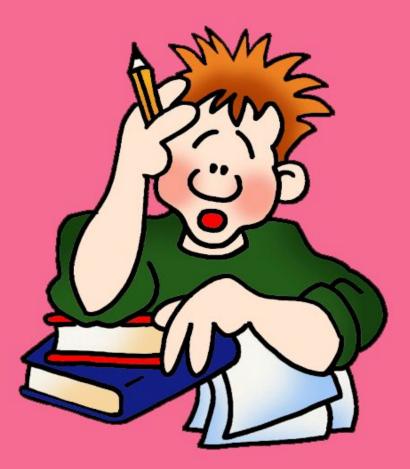
## They can also be the <u>Object</u> or go <u>after a preposition</u>:

- I loved the film (WHICH/THAT) we saw last night.
- The man (WHO/THAT/ WHO) you mentioned is a writer.
- I've found the keys for (WHICH/THAT) I was looking.
  => I found the keys I was looking for.
- Who was the boy to (who) you were talking? => Who was the boy you were talking to?

When The Relative is the Object, it can be (and it is usually) omitted in Defining Relative Clauses.

## Other Relatives:

## WHEN (THAT)

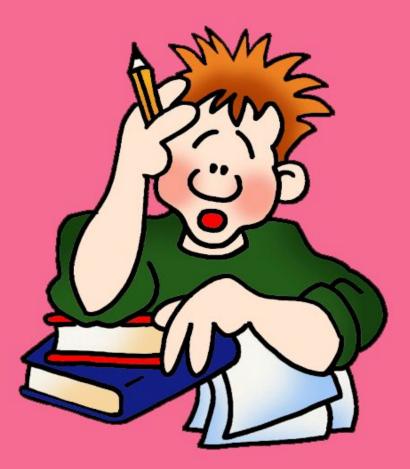


#### shows Time:

- I will never forget the day + I met my best friend that day:
I'll never forget the day
(WHEN/THAT) I met my best friend.

(WHEN can also be omitted in Defining Relative Clauses).

#### WHERE



refers to Places:

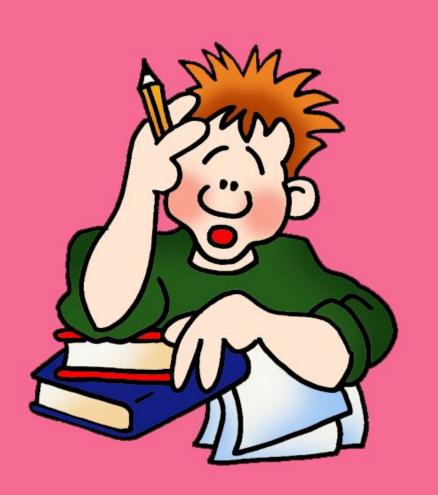
-This is the hotel + We are staying <u>at the hotel</u> next weekend:

This is the hotel **WHERE** we are staying next weekend.

- The city is interesting + my sister is living in the city:

The city **WHERE** my sister is living is interesting.

#### WHOSE



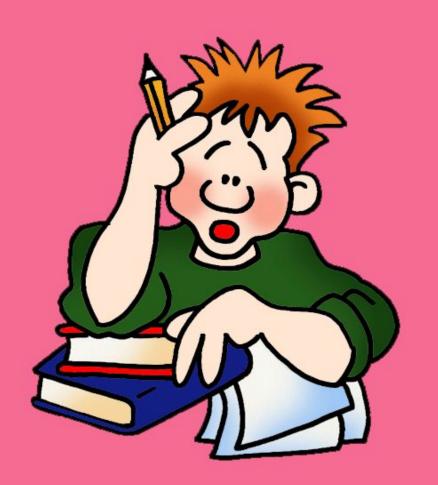
shows Possession and it replaces a Possessive adjective or an 's possessive:

- The man was crying + <u>His</u> house was on fire:

The man **WHOSE** house was on fire was crying.

- Have you met the people?
- + Their son is moving to Washington: Have you met the people WHOSE son is moving to Washington?

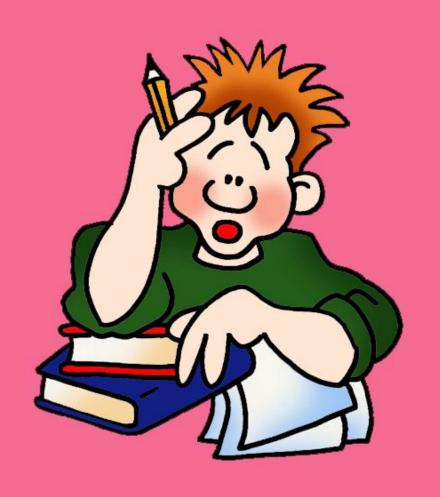
#### **WHOM**



is used instead of WHO in Formal Speech when it is the Object of the Relative Clause or after a preposition:

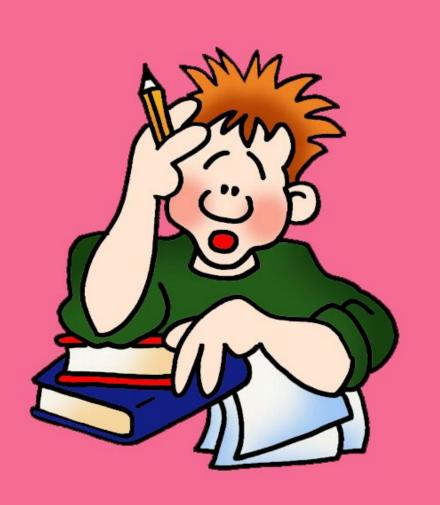
- I couldn't talk to a friend + I called him last night: I couldn't talk to the friend WHOM I called last night.
- I don't know the student +
  The teacher was shouting <u>at</u>
  <u>the student</u>: I don't know
  the student **at WHOM the teacher was shouting**.

### 2. Non-Defining Relative Clauses



They give us more (extra) information about a person, animal, thing, ... already identified (by a name, a possessive, ...). They go between commas.

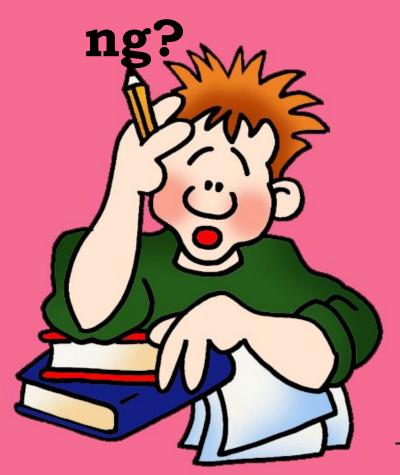
- Your brother, who gave me the news, saw the accident himself .
- I read Martin's letter, which was full of gossip.



## In Non-Defining Relative Clauses we <u>can't use</u> THAT and we <u>can't omit</u> the Relatives:

- -I liked *Toy Story*, which I've seen recently. (not "that", no Omission)
- -Shakespeare, whom you just mentioned, is the most famous British playwright. (not "that", no Omission)
- -I've found my keys, which I had been looking for. (not "that", no Omission)

# Defining or Non-Defini



#### Remember:

#### **Defining Relative Clauses:**

- Don't take commas.
- "That" can replace Who, Which and When.
- You can omit Who, Which, When and That when they are not the Subject of the Relative Clause.

### Non-Defining Relative Clauses:

- Go between commas.
- You can't use "That".
- You can't omit the Relatives.



#### Compare:

- -The neighbours who live next door are very friendly.
- -My neighbours, who live next door, are ...
- I enjoyed the film (which/that) you recommended.
- I enjoyed Little Miss Sunshine, which you recommended.