

3.1 RELATIVE CLAUSES

A relative clause is a group of words that gives extra information about a noun in a sentence.

Purpose: It helps to describe or define a noun more clearly without starting a new sentence.

Example:

The book that I read was interesting.

The relative clause is "*that I read*", which gives more information about the noun "*book*".

TYPES OF RELATIVE CLAUSES

Defining Relative Clauses

Provides essential information about the noun.

Example: *The woman who lives next door is my friend.*

Non-defining Relative Clauses

Adds extra, non-essential information and is separated by commas.

Example: *My brother, who is a doctor, lives in London.*

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

Purpose: To define or identify a noun by adding necessary information.

Examples:

The car that I bought last week is blue.

The students who studied hard passed the exam.

Note: Without the relative clause, the meaning of the sentence could change.

NON-DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

Purpose: To add extra information, but the sentence still makes sense without it.

Examples:

My father, who loves gardening, is retired.

London, which is the capital of England, is a great city to visit.

Note: Non-defining relative clauses are always set off by commas.

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Definition: Relative pronouns are used to introduce relative clauses. They connect the relative clause to the main clause.

Examples:

Who: Used for people.

Whom: Used for people (formal).

Which: Used for things or animals.

That: Used for people, things, or animals (informal).

Whose: Used to show possession.