



# ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 92 – Relative clauses 1  
(clauses with who/that/which)

*tienganh*





# Relative clauses 1 (clauses with who/that/which)



## WHO / THAT / WHICH

A

Last week we had a party and a lot of people came. Everybody enjoyed it.

Everybody **who came to the party** enjoyed it.

Relative clause

A **clause** is a part of a sentence. A *relative clause* tells us which person or thing (or *what kind of person or thing*) the speaker means:

- the woman **who lives next door to me**  
(‘who lives next door to me’ tells us which woman)
- people **who complain all the time**  
(‘who complain all the time’ tells us what kind of people)

We also use **that** for people, but not which:

- EX6: The woman **that lives next door to me** is a doctor. (not the woman which)

Sometimes you must use **who** (not that) for people – see Unit 95.

We use **who** in a relative clause for people (not things):

- EX1: **The woman who** lives next door to me is a doctor.
- EX2: I don’t like **people who** complain all the time.
- EX3: An architect is **someone who** designs buildings.
- EX4: What was the name of **the person who** called?
- EX5: Do you know **anyone who** wants to buy a car?



# Relative clauses 1 (clauses with who/that/which)



## THAT OR WHICH

B

When we are talking about **things**, we use **that** or **which** (not who) in a relative clause:

- EX7: I don't like **stories that** have unhappy endings. or ... **stories which** have unhappy endings.
- EX8: Grace works for a **company that** makes furniture. or ... a **company which** makes furniture.
- EX9: The **machine that** broke down is working again now. or The **machine which** broke down ...

In these examples that is more usual than which, but sometimes you must use which. See Unit 95.



# Relative clauses 1 (clauses with who/that/which)



NO HE / SHE / THEY / IT, PLEASE

C

In relative clauses we use **who/that/which**, not **he/she/they/it**.

Compare:

- EX10: I met a Canadian woman at the party. She is an English teacher. (2 sentences)  
I met a Canadian **woman who** is an English teacher. (1 sentence)
- EX11: I can't find the keys. They were on the table.  
Where are **the keys that** were on the table? (*not the keys they were*)



# Relative clauses 1 (clauses with who/that/which)



## WHAT = THE THING(S) THAT

D

Compare **what** and **that**:

- EX12: **What happened** was my fault. (= the thing that happened)

But:

- EX13: Everything **that happened** was my fault. (not Everything **what** happened)
- EX14: The machine **that broke down** is now working again. (not The machine **what** broke down)



# Relative clauses 1 (clauses with who/that/which)



## TÓM TẮT

1. Mệnh đề là một bộ phận của câu, bao gồm một **chủ ngữ** và một **động từ chính**. Mệnh đề **quan hệ** cho chúng ta biết người hay vật nào mà người nói đang đề cập.

Everybody **who came to the party** enjoyed it.

2. Chúng ta dùng **who, which, that** để bắt đầu mệnh đề quan hệ, trong đó:
  - **who và that** để bổ nghĩa cho người.
  - **which và that** để bổ nghĩa cho vật.
3. Trong một số trường hợp chúng ta không dùng **“that”** thay cho **who và which** được. Chi tiết sẽ thảo luận ở bài 95.
4. Cần phân biệt **what** và **that**.
  - **What** nghĩa là “điều mà” (**the things that**) thường giới thiệu một **mệnh đề danh từ** đóng vai trò chủ ngữ hoặc túc từ của một động từ. **What happened was my fault.**
  - Còn **that** thường bắt đầu một **mệnh đề tính từ** để bổ nghĩa cho một danh từ khác. **Everything that happened was my fault.**