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Basics. Defining vs. Non-defining Relative Clauses

Medium | B1 | Intermediate | Clause | Comma | Complex sentence | Pronoun | Punctuation | Relative clause

1. Read the angry food critic's review of a disastrous dinner. Select ALL the sentences that apply where the relative clauses are used correctly.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** The soup I ordered was completely cold.
- **B)** The waiter, who dropped my pizza, didn't even apologize.
- **C)** The chef, I spoke to earlier, was very rude.
- **D)** The dessert that it arrived last was actually delicious.

2. Complete the food critic's dramatic restaurant review by choosing the correct option for each blank.

The mushroom soup _____ tasted like salty dishwater.

Chef Pierre _____ threw a flying baguette across the room.

The head waiter _____ immediately hid behind the dessert cart.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** we ordered
- **B)** , which we ordered,
- **C)** what we ordered

Blank 2

- **A)** , whose temper is legendary,
- **B)** whose temper is legendary
- **C)** , who his temper is legendary,

Blank 3

- **A)** , who was terrified,
- **B)** who was terrified
- **C)** , that was terrified,

3. Review the wealthy widow's eccentric will and select ALL the legally (and grammatically) correct sentences that apply.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** My nephew, who lives in London, will inherit the mansion.
- **B)** The diamond necklace that is hidden in the safe goes to my cat.
- **C)** My favorite painting, that hangs in the hall, belongs to the butler.
- **D)** My husband, whom I met in Paris will receive the yacht.

4. Complete this angry traveler's online review by choosing the correct relative clause for each blank.

The creepy hotel _____ was supposedly haunted.

Sir Reginald _____ kept stealing my socks every night.

The only suitcase _____ is now full of green slime!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** where we stayed
- **B)** , where we stayed,
- **C)** which we stayed

Blank 2

- **A)** , who haunts the third floor,
- **B)** who haunts the third floor
- **C)** , that haunts the third floor,

Blank 3

- **A)** that survived the trip
- **B)** , which survived the trip,
- **C)** who survived the trip

5. Complete the detective's messy case notes by selecting the right options.

Mayor _____ was last seen eating a giant donut, is our prime suspect.

We need to find the specific donut _____ sells these rare rainbow sprinkles.

The Golden Crumb _____ is located on Main Street, was robbed at midnight.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** Higgins, who
- **B)** Higgins who
- **C)** Higgins that

Blank 2

- **A)** shop that
- **B)** shop, which
- **C)** shop, who

Blank 3

- **A)** Bakery, which
- **B)** Bakery that
- **C)** Bakery which

6. A chaotic wizard has dropped his collection of wands on the floor! Help him identify the dangerous one by choosing the grammatically correct sentence.

Select one.

- **A)** The wand that sparks purple magic is completely out of control!
- **B)** The wand, that sparks purple magic, is completely out of control!
- **C)** The wand which sparks purple magic, is completely out of control!
- **D)** The wand who sparks purple magic is completely out of control!

7. Help the young wizard complete his potion notebook by choosing the correct relative clauses.

The headmaster's pet _____ delivers the mail, is quite grumpy today.

Students should avoid any _____ look overly caffeinated.

The Moonstone _____ takes three weeks to brew, is highly explosive!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** owl, which
- **B)** owl that
- **C)** owl which

Blank 2

- **A)** owls that
- **B)** owls, which
- **C)** owls, who

Blank 3

- **A)** Elixir, which
- **B)** Elixir that
- **C)** Elixir which

8. Complete the tech blogger's slightly dramatic review by selecting the correct clause.

My brand-new laptop, _____, is already making alarming clicking noises.

Select one.

- **A)** which I bought just yesterday
- **B)** that I bought just yesterday
- **C)** I bought just yesterday
- **D)** what I bought just yesterday

9. Help the alien tour guide update their Earth observation manual. Select ALL the grammatically correct sentences that apply.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Earthlings, who need oxygen to survive, are surprisingly fragile.
- **B)** The planet, which is mostly covered in water, looks blue from space.
- **C)** The humans, that drink coffee every morning, seem very energetic.
- **D)** The sun that provides them with light is a yellow dwarf.

10. Help the family historian caption the old photograph correctly by choosing the right phrase.

Uncle Arthur _____ claims to be an intergalactic time traveler.

Select one.

- **A)** , who always wears a tin foil hat,
- **B)** who always wears a tin foil hat
- **C)** , that always wears a tin foil hat,
- **D)** , which always wears a tin foil hat,

11. Help the HR manager complete this incident report by choosing the correct clause for each blank. Pay close attention to commas!

The employee _____ is currently hiding under a desk.

Mr. Henderson _____ was unfortunately standing right next to the machine.

Our brand-new espresso machine _____ is now completely ruined.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** who caused the explosion
- **B)** which caused the explosion
- **C)** , who caused the explosion,

Blank 2

- **A)** , who loves his espresso,
- **B)** who loves his espresso
- **C)** , that loves his espresso,

Blank 3

- **A)** , which cost a fortune,
- **B)** which cost a fortune
- **C)** , that cost a fortune,

12. Help the travel blogger clarify her family drama by picking the right punctuation and pronouns.

My _____ refuses to ask for directions, drove us straight into a swamp.

Luckily, the _____ brought his GPS was in the car with us.

Our rental _____ was already making weird noises, finally broke down completely.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** father, who
- **B)** father who
- **C)** father that

Blank 2

A) brother who
B) brother, who
C) brother, that

Blank 3

A) van, which
B) van that
C) van which