Class – X

Relative Pronouns

A relative [**pronoun**](http://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/pronouns-2/) is one which is used to refer to [**nouns**](http://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/nouns/) mentioned previously, whether they are people, places, things, animals, or ideas. Relative pronouns can be used to join two sentences.

There are only a few relative pronouns in the English language. The most common are *which, that, whose, whoever, whomever, who,* and *whom.* In some situations, the words *what, when,* and *where* can also function as relative pronouns.

Relative Pronouns Examples

The following sentences contain examples of relative pronouns. The relative pronoun in each example is italicized.

1. The cyclist *who* won the race trained hard.
2. The pants *that* I bought yesterday are already stained.
3. The four team leaders, *whoever*the committee selects, will be at tomorrow’s meeting.
4. Spaghetti, *which* we eat at least twice a week, is one of my family’s favorite meals.
5. Where did you buy the dress *that* you wore last week?
6. The book, *when* it was finally returned, was torn and stained.
7. The store on the corner, *where* we usually buy all of our art supplies, burned to the ground.

Relative Pronouns Exercises

The following exercises will help you gain greater understanding about how relative pronouns work. Choose the best answer to complete each sentence.

1. The festival, ­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lasted all day, ended with a banquet.
   1. That
   2. Who
   3. Which
   4. What
2. I am looking for someone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can watch my dog while I go on vacation.
   1. Which
   2. Who
   3. Whom
   4. Whoever
3. The police needed details \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ could help identify the robber.
   1. Who
   2. Whatever
   3. That
   4. What
4. I’d like to take you to a café \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ serves excellent coffee.
   1. What
   2. Whatever
   3. Which
   4. Whichever
5. The clubhouse, in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the dance was held, housed about 200 people.
   1. Which
   2. Where
   3. That
   4. Whom
6. You can choose one person, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you like, to share the cruise with you.
   1. Whomever
   2. That
   3. Which
   4. Whom
7. I saw the shoes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you bought last week on sale for less this week.
   1. When
   2. That
   3. Who
   4. Whom
8. The winners, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ known, will receive money and other prizes.
   1. Whoever
   2. Who
   3. When
   4. That
9. This is the place \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we met.
   1. When
   2. Where
   3. Who
   4. That
10. The baby, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nap had been interrupted, wailed loudly.
    1. Whosw
    2. Whomever
    3. Whom
    4. Who

**Answers**

1. C – The festival, *which* lasted all day, ended with a banquet.
2. B – I am looking for someone *who* can watch my dog while I go on vacation.
3. C – The police needed details *that* could help identify the robber.
4. C – I’d like to take you to a café *which* serves excellent coffee.
5. A – The clubhouse, in *which* the dance was held, housed about 200 people.
6. A – You can choose one person, *whomever* you like, to share the cruise with you.
7. B – I saw the shoes *that* you bought last week on sale for less this week.
8. C – The winners, *when* known, will receive money and other prizes.
9. B – This is the place *where* we met.
10. A – The baby, *whose* nap had been interrupted, wailed loudly.

List of Relative Pronouns

Who

Whom

That

Which

Whoever

Whomever

Whichever