

Activity Type

Reading and writing exercises

Focus

Non-defining relative clauses

Aim

To practice or review non-defining relative clauses.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

This useful relative clauses worksheet helps students to practice or review non-defining relative clauses while reading and writing about famous actors, actresses and films.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Begin by reading through the introduction on non-defining relative clauses as a class.

Next, students read a text about famous actors and films and do a gap-fill exercise where they complete sentences with a non-defining relative pronoun. The students then underline the additional (non-defining) information in each sentence.

Exercise A and B - Answer key

1. **which** is Haruto and Yuna's holiday destination
2. **where** Haruto and Yuna are from
3. **who** likes Marilyn Monroe
4. **whose** acting abilities earned her a Golden Globe award
5. **who** starred in the film "Patch Adams"

Students then choose phrases to go with sentences and rewrite each sentence using the phrase in a non-defining relative clause.

Exercise C - Answer key

1. (c) The film "Some Like It Hot", which starred Marilyn Monroe, came out in 1959.
2. (b) Marilyn Monroe, who died in 1962, is still known as a sex symbol.
3. (a) The film "Patch Adams", which came out in 1998, starred Robin Williams.
4. (f) Robin Williams, whose Walk of Fame star is on Hollywood Boulevard, is remembered for his comedic abilities.
5. (e) The Hollywood Walk of Fame, where Yuna really wants to visit, is a famous tourist attraction.
6. (d) Yuna, whose dream is about to come true, is going to see Hollywood with her husband soon.

Afterwards, students use their own ideas to complete sentences with non-defining relative clauses. When the students have finished, review their sentences and provide feedback.

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

Non-defining relative clauses provide additional information about the person, thing or place in the sentence. Non-defining relative clauses don't identify anything, just add to the information. Commas are used to separate them from the rest of the sentence.

Relative pronoun	Use	Example
Who	For people	Marilyn Monroe, who died in 1962, is still very famous.
Which	For things or animals	The movie "Some Like It Hot", which came out in 1959, starred Marilyn Monroe.
Where	For places	Hollywood, where the American film industry started, is near Los Angeles.
Whose	For possessions (always followed by a noun)	Haruto, whose favourite actress is Marilyn Monroe, is from Japan.

A. Read the following text. Then, complete each gap in the sentences below with *who*, *which*, *where* or *whose*.

Haruto and Yuna are a married couple. They have planned a trip to Hollywood. They've dreamed of going to Hollywood because it's the birthplace of the American film industry. Many famous films are made there. Haruto and Yuna are from Japan, so it will be a long trip. Yuna wants to learn about her favourite film stars. Her favourite American actor is Robin Williams. Williams starred in the 1998 movie "Patch Adams", and "Patch Adams" is Yuna's favourite American film. The film was nominated for eight awards and won one, the ASCAP Award. Williams was known for his comedic acting style and his range of film performances. He died in 2014. Haruto's favourite American actress is Marilyn Monroe. Monroe was known for playing beautiful, sexy characters and for being a sex symbol. Although Monroe died in 1962, she is still very famous. Haruto's favourite film starring Monroe is the 1959 film "Some Like It Hot". Monroe won a Golden Globe Award for her performance in this film.



While Haruto and Yuna are in Hollywood, they want to see the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Many celebrities have stars on it. Both Williams and Monroe's stars are on Hollywood Boulevard. Williams' star is on the north side, while Monroe's star is on the south side.

1. Hollywood, is Haruto and Yuna's holiday destination, is known as the centre of the American film and TV industry.
2. Japan, Haruto and Yuna are from, is a long way from Hollywood.
3. Haruto, likes Marilyn Monroe, wants to see Monroe's star on the Walk of Fame.
4. Marilyn Monroe, acting abilities earned her a Golden Globe award, has a Hollywood Walk of Fame star on the south side of Hollywood Boulevard.
5. Robin Williams, starred in the film "Patch Adams", was a famous comedian.

B. Underline the additional (non-defining) information in the five sentences above.

