

Defining and Non-defining Relative Clauses

- Choose which of these sentences is correct. Should we use a defining relative clause or a non-defining relative clause? For each question you have a clue.

Q1. You have two houses.

- a) My house which is in Miami is very expensive.
- b) My house, which is in Miami, is very expensive.

Q2. You have only one sister.

- a) My sister, who works in a hotel, got a promotion at work.
- b) My sister who works for a hotel got a promotion at work.

Q3. You are telling somebody that it is your car.

- a) The car that is outside the house is mine.
- b) The car, which is outside the house, is mine.

Q4. You have many pairs of shoes.

- a) The pair of shoes, that I bought yesterday, is my favourite.
- b) The pair of shoes that I bought yesterday is my favourite.

Q5. There are several jackets in the room.

- a) The jacket, which is on the coatstand, is mine.
- b) The jacket which is on the coatstand is mine.

Q6. There are thousands of museums around the world.

- a) The museum which we visited on holiday is very interesting.
- b) The museum, which we visited on holiday, is very interesting.

Q7. You are talking about one room in your house.

- a) My living room which is the largest room in my house is at the front of the house.
- b) My living room, which is the largest room in my house, is at the front of the house.

Q8. There are several houses in the street.

- a) The house which is at the end of the street is my friend's.
- b) The house, which is at the end of the street, is my friend's.

Defining and Non-defining Relative Clauses

Q9. There are two bags on the table, one is red and one is brown.

- a) The bag which is red is mine.
- b) The bag, which is red, is mine.

Q10. You are talking about a town.

- a) The town, which I live in, is very big.
- b) The town which I live in is very big.

Q11. There are three pictures on the wall.

- a) The picture which has mountains was painted by me.
- b) The picture, which has mountains, was painted by me.

Q12. You name the building.

- a) The Round Building, which we went to yesterday, is in London.
- b) The Round Building which we went to yesterday is in London.

Q13. You talk about your father.

- a) My father who is very tall lives in the country.
- b) My father, who is very tall, lives in the country.

Q14. There are two televisions in your house.

- a) The television which is in the bedroom is a widescreen.
- b) The television, which is in the bedroom, is a widescreen.

Q15. You have lots of clothes.

- a) The clothes that I bought today are nice.
- b) The clothes, that I bought today, are nice.

Q16. Everyone in the room owns keys.

- a) The keys, which are on the table, are mine.
- b) The keys which are on the table are mine.

Q17. You have only one mobile phone.

- a) My mobile phone, which was very cheap, is very good.
- b) My mobile phone which was very cheap is very good.

Defining and Non-defining Relative Clauses

Q18. You have one computer.

- a) My computer which is red is not working anymore.
- b) My computer, which is red, is not working anymore.

Q19. You have many friends.

- a) My friend who lives in Barcelona is named Sam.
- b) My friend, who lives in Barcelona, is named Sam.

Q20. There are two bags on the floor.

- a) The bag, which is blue, is his.
- b) The bag which is blue is his.

ANSWERS

- A1. a)** My house which is in Miami is very expensive.
- A2. a)** My sister, who works in a hotel, got a promotion at work.
- A3. a)** The car that is outside the house is mine.
- A4. b)** The pair of shoes that I bought yesterday is my favourite.
- A5. b)** The jacket which is on the coatstand is mine.
- A6. a)** The museum which we visited on holiday is very interesting.
- A7. b)** My living room, which is the largest room in my house, is at the front of the house.
- A8. a)** The house which is at the end of the street is my friend's.
- A9. a)** The bag which is red is mine.
- A10. b)** The town which I live in is very big.
- A11. a)** The picture which has mountains was painted by me.
- A12. a)** The Round Building, which we went to yesterday, is in London.
- A13. b)** My father, who is very tall, lives in the country.
- A14. a)** The television which is in the bedroom is a widescreen.
- A15. a)** The clothes that I bought today are nice.
- A16. b)** The keys which are on the table are mine.
- A17. a)** My mobile phone, which was very cheap, is very good.
- A18. b)** My computer, which is red, is not working anymore.
- A19. a)** My friend who lives in Barcelona is named Sam.
- A20. b)** The bag which is blue is his.