

Name :

Date:

Relative Pronouns (RP) (සර්වනාම)

The relative pronouns are:

Subject	Object	Possessive
who	who(m)	whose
which	which	whose
that	that	

We use **who** and **whom** for people, and **which** for things.
Or we can use **that** for people or things.

We use relative pronouns:

- **after** a noun, to **make it clear** which person or thing we are talking about:

the house **that** Jack built
the woman **who** discovered radium
an eight-year-old boy **who** attempted to rob a sweet shop

- in **relative clauses** to tell us more about a person or thing:

My mother, who was born overseas, has always been a great traveller.
Lord Thompson, who is 76, has just retired.
We had fish and chips, which is my favourite meal.

But we do **not** use **that** as a **subject** in relative clauses.

We use **whose** as the **possessive** form of **who**:

This is George, **whose** brother went to school with me.

We sometimes use **whom** as the **object** of a verb or preposition:

This is George, **whom** you met at our house last year.
This is George's brother, with **whom** I went to school.

But **nowadays** we normally use **who**:

This is George, **who** you met at our house last year.
This is George's brother, **who** I went to school with.

When **whom** or **which** have a preposition the **preposition** can come at the **beginning** of the clause...

I had an uncle in Galle, **from** who[m] I inherited a bit of money.
We bought a chainsaw, **with** which we cut up all the wood.

... **or** at the **end** of the clause:

I had an uncle in Galle who[m] I inherited a bit of money **from**.
We bought a chainsaw, which we cut all the wood up **with**.

We can use **that** at the beginning of the clause:

I had an uncle in Galle, **that** I inherited a bit of money from.
We bought a chainsaw, **that** we cut all the wood up with.

When relative pronouns can be left out

We **leave out** the **relative pronoun** (who/which/that) if it is **not the subject** in the sentence.

If there is a verb after the relative pronoun who/which/that, *do not leave out the relative pronoun*.

Examples with the relative pronoun *who*

1st part of the sentence	2nd part of the sentence
This is the boy	who was at the party yesterday.
Subject Verb Rest	Subject Verb Rest

who is subject in the sentence, **do not leave it out**.

1st part of the sentence	Pronoun	2nd part of the sentence
This is the boy	who	I met at the party yesterday.
This is the boy	can be left out	I met at the party yesterday.
Subject Verb Rest		Subject Verb Rest

who is *not subject* in the sentence, it **can be left out**.

Examples with the relative pronoun *which/that*

1st part of the sentence	2nd part of the sentence
This is the bike	which was in the shop window.
Subject Verb Rest	Subject Verb Rest

which is subject in the sentence, **do not leave it out**.

1st part of the sentence	Pronoun	2nd part of the sentence
This is the bike	which	I bought yesterday.
This is the bike	can be left out	I bought yesterday.
Subject Verb Rest		Subject Verb Rest

which is *not subject* in the sentence, it **can be left out**.

Join the following sentences with relative pronouns (සර්වනාම)

1. I met David. He has just returned from Sydney. (who)

.....

2. I have found the letter. I lost the letter. (which/that)

.....

3. Here is the letter. You gave me the letter. (which/that)

.....

4. This is the boy. He came to see Boss (who)

.....

5. They are the people. Their houses are damaged by floods. (whose)

.....

6. This is the house. This belongs to my brother. (that/which)

.....

7. Take any table. The one you like. (what/that)

.....

8. I bought a shirt today. It is an imported shirt. (which/that)

.....

9. He said that. It was a lie. (what)

.....

10. That man was arrested. He was responsible for the robbery. (who)

.....

11. I know a mechanic. He has been to Dubai for the second time. (who)

.....

12. The man killed a woman. He was sentenced to death. (who)

.....

13. Please show the road. The road leads to Pettah/Borella. (that)

.....

14. This is the shop. I buy clothes from here. (where)

.....
15. The officer was rude to me. I spoke to him at the department. (who)

.....
16. He does his best at the office. He should be given an increment. (who)

.....
17. He is honest. He is hard working also. (who)

.....
18. My father/dad is dead. I love my father a great deal/ a lot. (whom)

.....
19. He was working at Sampath Bank. He has come to buy something. (who)

.....
20. Peter was irresponsible. He was transferred with immediate effect.(who)

.....
21. The customer has come. I was speaking about him this morning. (whom)

.....
22. The spectators cheered. They were watching the match. (who)

.....
23. I found a place. I can stay there without any problem. (where)

.....
24. I got the letter. You sent the letter. (that/which)

.....
25. This is the house. He built it after he got the job. (that/which)

Homework

1-85 I am printing the report which my manager requested yesterday.

86-87 I got *the report which my manager requested* printed yesterday.

88-119 The class that I go in Colombo 4. 120-139 There is a teacher who can teach mathematics very well in Nugegoda. 140-162 I have a class. 163-189 Am I printing it? 190-193 Does she feel envious?

194-200 Is it in Bambalapitiya? 201-208 Is there a teacher? 209-217 Do I have an appointment?

1-55 The report which my manager requested is printed. (Only PV)