

One Sentence, Two Notes: who, which, that

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How to work

First find the antecedent. Then decide: does the clause identify it (defining, no commas) or only add information (non-defining, with commas)? In defining clauses: who for people, which for things, that for both; an object relative in a defining clause can disappear. In non-defining clauses, use who or which, never that.

Read your answers again. Does each sentence keep all the information? Are the commas right for defining or extra information?

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Worked example with its own data. Notes: My chemistry notes are in my bag. I lent those notes to Sara. Join: My chemistry notes ____ I lent to Sara are in my bag. Solution: My chemistry notes (which/that) I lent to Sara are in my bag. Why: the relative is the object of a defining clause, so it can also be omitted.

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A

Which antecedent, which function

Read both clues. Decide defining or extra information. Then join the two notes in one sentence.

1

Clues: I have one physics teacher. His name, Dr Bianchi, is extra information. Join: My physics teacher ____ is called Dr Bianchi explains everything twice.

Read your answers again. Does each sentence keep all the information? Are the commas right for defining or extra information?

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2

Clues: There were three lab assistants. Only one helped us with the experiment. Join: The lab assistant ____ helped us is a university student.

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B

Fix punctuation and function

Fix only what is wrong. Keep all the information.

3

Rome, that is the capital of Italy, is a big city. Fix the sentence.

Read your answers again. Does each sentence keep all the information? Are the commas right for defining or extra information?

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B

Fix punctuation and function

Fix only what is wrong. Keep all the information.

4

The essay I wrote last week got an A. A relative is missing. Check the sentence yourself and write it. If it is correct, you can just write OK.

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C

Compare readings and transfer

Choose the reading the context supports. Then join a new pair of notes in the same way.

5

Clues: I have two sisters. Only one lives in Turin. A: My sister who lives in Turin is an engineer. B: My sister, who lives in Turin, is an engineer. Choose and write one short reason.

Read your answers again. Does each sentence keep all the information? Are the commas right for defining or extra information?

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Compare readings and transfer

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6

New notes: The telescope belongs to the school. We used the telescope at the observatory. Join them in one sentence.

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