

Relative clauses

For each of the six questions choose the **one** correct answer.

1. Aberdeen, _____ my brother lives, is a town in Scotland.

- a. where
- b. which
- c. who
- d. when

2. Which word is NOT possible?

My parents live in the same house _____ they bought 50 years ago.

- a. that
- b. which
- c. ---
- d. what

3. Sheila, _____ lives next door, is a dinner-lady in our local school.

- a. who
- b. that
- c. ---
- d. which

4. The senior managers, with _____ we are meeting next week, are promising a big money deal.

- a. who
- b. whom
- c. which
- d. whose

5. I met this woman yesterday _____ husband plays golf with my husband!

- a. who
- b. whom
- c. whose
- d. who's

6. The house _____ I live in is 150 years old.

- a. where
- b. which
- c. who
- d. what

Relative clauses

Answers

1:

- a. **Correct** - where - Use 'where' to refer to places.
- b. which - Use 'which' to refer to things.
- c. who - Use 'who' to refer to people.
- d. when - Use 'when' to refer to times.

2:

- a. that - 'That' is correct – it refers to the house.
- b. which - 'Which' is correct – it refers to the house.
- c. --- - You can omit the pronoun when it refers to the object (they bought the house)
- d. **Correct** - what - 'What' means 'the things that' and is not grammatically correct.

3:

- a. **Correct** - who - Use 'who' when the pronoun refers to a person in this type of 'extra information' clause.
- b. that - You cannot use 'that' in this type of 'extra information' clause.
- c. --- - You cannot omit the pronoun in this type of 'extra information' clause.
- d. which - You cannot use 'which' to refer to a person.

4:

- a. who - You could say 'who we are meeting with' or 'with whom we are meeting'.
- b. **Correct** - whom - You could say 'who we are meeting with' or 'with whom we are meeting' (very formal).
- c. which - Use 'which' to refer to things, not people.
- d. whose - Use 'whose' to refer to possessive pronouns.

5:

- a. who - Which word is used to refer to her husband?
- b. whom - Which word is used to refer to her husband?
- c. **Correct** - whose - Whose is used for possessives, i.e. is used to refer to her husband.
- d. who's - Who's = who is. Which word is used to refer to her husband?

6:

- a. where - 'Where' is not possible because of the preposition 'in' (in which I live).
- b. **Correct** - which - 'Which' is the correct answer (in which I live).
- c. who - Use 'who' to refer to people.
- d. what - 'What' means 'the things that'.

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