

The customers who/that complain are always the same.

Les pronoms relatifs de l'anglais sont **who, whom, which, whose, that**. On trouve aussi le **relatif zéro** ($\emptyset$). Le choix du pronom relatif dépend de la nature de la proposition relative, de l'antécédent et de la fonction du pronom.

A

Fonctionnement

1 Une proposition relative **se greffe sur** un groupe nominal (son « antécédent »).

The amount of money that they spend on their children is impressive.

La quantité d'argent qu'ils dépensent pour leurs enfants est impressionnante.

2 Un pronom relatif peut être **sujet, complément** ou **génitif**.

The woman who wears a black skirt is our head. [who sujet de wears]

La femme qui porte une jupe noire est notre directrice.

The money that they spend on their children is impressive. [that complément de spend]

He's the man whose wife owns a restaurant. [whose génitif]

C'est l'homme dont la femme possède un restaurant.

B

Les propositions relatives déterminatives et appositives

1 Les propositions relatives **déterminatives** apportent une **information essentielle** pour identifier l'antécédent.

The woman who wears a black skirt is our head.

[La relative permet de savoir de quelle femme on parle.]

The Japanese who speak fluent English are lucky.

Les Japonais qui parlent couramment l'anglais ont de la chance.

[La relative identifie un sous-groupe de Japonais, ceux qui parlent anglais.]

2 Les propositions **appositives** apportent un **simple complément d'information**. Elles sont en apposition (juxtaposées à l'antécédent et placées entre virgules).

The woman, who had never been on a plane, refused to fasten her seat belt.

La femme, qui n'était jamais montée dans un avion, a refusé d'attacher sa ceinture.

C

Les pronoms relatifs sujet

Il en existe trois : **who, which** et **that**. Avec **who**, l'**antécédent** est un être **humain** ; avec **which**, il est **non humain**. Avec **that**, l'antécédent peut être **humain** ou **non humain** mais **that** ne s'emploie que dans les relatives déterminatives.

relative déterminative

who [humain]

which [non humain]

that

relative appositive

who [humain]

which [non humain]

attention : *that* exclu

The trains which/that use this line run with electricity.

Les trains qui utilisent cette voie fonctionnent à l'électricité.

[déterminative]

It's hard for the Japanese, who don't speak a European language, to learn English.

Il est difficile pour les Japonais, qui ne parlent pas une langue européenne, d'apprendre l'anglais. [appositive]

REPÉRER

1 Repérez les propositions relatives, soulignez l'antécédent du pronom relatif, repérez sa fonction. **A**

1. "What is a book? Everything or nothing. The eye that sees it is all." (*Ralph Waldo Emerson*)
2. "Do your bit to save humanity from lapsing back into barbarity by reading all the novels you can." (*Richard Hughes*)
3. "When I get hold of a book I particularly admire, I am so enthusiastic that I loan it to someone who never brings it back." (*Edgar Watson Howe*)
4. "I have never started a poem yet whose end I knew. Writing is discovering." (*Robert Frost*)
5. "Not the poem which we have read, but that to which we return, with the greatest pleasure, possesses the genuine power, and claims the name of essential poetry." (*Samuel Taylor Coleridge*)

2 Repérez les propositions relatives déterminatives. Dans quelles phrases peut-on remplacer le relatif employé par *that*? Relisez les phrases à voix haute puis écoutez-les sur le site. (→ **fiche 78**). **B**

1. We lived on 2nd Avenue and 18th Street, which was then considered uptown.
2. He wore old-fashioned glasses which made him look very serious.
3. The head of the family was Grandpa Charlie, who I was named after.
4. If there's one thing America worships more than a celebrity, it's a celebrity who makes a come-back.
5. He told me about his wife and children, who lived in New York City.

EMPLOYER

3 Greffez la proposition relative donnée entre parenthèses sur un élément de la phrase. **A B C**

1. My friend's daughter has passed the exam with honours (, who is only 19).
2. The book has become a best seller (which I told you about a month ago).
3. Have you found the CD (Ø you were looking for)?
4. The 2011 storm blew down many trees (, which nobody expected).
5. Some of the postcards have not arrived yet (that I sent from India a month ago).

4 Employez *who* ou *which* dans les phrases suivantes. **C**

1. I have a neighbour has a daughter of fifteen.
2. She lived in Kent with her husband was a doctor.
3. She hoped to avoid the snow was forecast.
4. He wants a flat wouldn't be too far from the centre.
5. I've met very few people don't like her.

5 Traduisez les phrases suivantes. **B C**

1. Mon frère qui vit à San Diego viendra en France cet été.
2. Mon frère, qui vit à San Diego, viendra en France cet été.
3. Elle portait des vêtements sombres qui la vieillissaient.
4. Elle portait des vêtements sombres, ce qui déplaisait à son petit ami.
5. Cette toile, qui a été peinte en 1980, coûte une fortune.

66 Les relatives (1)

1. *the eye **that sees it is all***
that a pour antécédent *the eye* / *that* sujet de *sees*
2. *by reading **all the novels you can***
 relatif $\emptyset$ a pour antécédent *the novels* / $\emptyset$ COD de *can* (*read*)
3. *a book **I particularly admire***
 relatif $\emptyset$ a pour antécédent *a book* / $\emptyset$ COD de *admire*
*someone **who never brings it back***
 relatif *who* a pour antécédent *someone* / *who* sujet de *brings*
4. *a poem yet **whose end I knew***
 relatif *whose* a pour antécédent *a poem* / *whose* génitif
 (complément du nom *end*)
5. *the poem **which we have read***
 relatif *which* a pour antécédent *the poem* / *which* COD de *have read*

*that **to which we return with the greatest pleasure***
 relatif *which* a pour antécédent *that* / *which* COI de *return* (*to*)

- 2 Phrase 2 *which made him look very serious*
 → *that made him look very serious*
 Phrase 4 *who makes a comeback*
 → *that makes a comeback*
- 3 1. My friend's daughter, **who is only 19**, has passed the exam with honours. 2. The book **which I told you about a month ago** has become a best seller. 3. Have you found the CD **you were looking for**? 4. The 2011 storm, **which nobody expected**, blew down many trees. 5. Some of the postcards **that I sent from India a month ago** have not arrived yet.
- 4 1. a neighbour **who** 2. her husband **who** 3. the snow **which**
 4. a flat **which** 5. very few people **who**
- 5 1. My brother **who** lives in San Diego will come to France this summer. 2. My brother, **who** lives in San Diego, will come to France this summer. 3. She was wearing dark clothes **which** made her look old. 4. She was wearing dark clothes, **which** her boyfriend did not like. 5. This picture, **which** was painted in 1980, costs a fortune.

I've never liked the films Ø/that/which this critic recommends.

A

Les pronoms relatifs complément

relative déterminative	relative appositive
<i>who</i> [humain]	<i>who</i> [humain]
<i>which</i> [non humain]	<i>which</i> [non humain]
<i>that</i> /Ø [le plus fréquent]	attention : Ø et <i>that</i> exclus ici

The people Ø/who/that they arrested were innocent tourists.

Les gens qu'ils ont arrêtés étaient d'innocents touristes.

[déterminative, Ø/*who*/*that* complément, antécédent humain]

My children, who you wouldn't recognize, call me every day!

Mes enfants, que vous ne reconnaîtriez pas, me téléphonent tous les jours !

[appositive, *who* complément, antécédent humain]

À la place de *who* complément, on trouve aussi **whom** (très formel).

B

Préposition dans la relative

Lorsqu'une proposition relative inclut une **préposition**, la relative est le plus souvent **déterminative** et le **relatif** utilisé est **complément** (*who/which/that* et surtout Ø). La préposition se place généralement **à la fin** de la relative.

He's the guy Ø I was telling you about.

C'est le gars dont je te parlais.

[*who* ou *that* possible, *whom* rare]

I'll show you the college Ø I studied in.

Je vais te montrer l'université dans laquelle j'ai étudié.

[*which* ou *that* possible]

La structure « préposition + pronom relatif + proposition relative » est très formelle.

I'll show you the college in which I studied. [préposition + *that* impossible]

C

Whose : pronom relatif au génitif

1 **Whose** s'emploie avec un **antécédent humain** ou **non humain**. Ce pronom relatif porte la marque du génitif (-s).

He's the man whose wife owns the best restaurant in L.A.

C'est l'homme dont la femme possède le meilleur restaurant de L.A.

• Quand l'antécédent est non humain, on trouve aussi **nom + of which**.

She saw a play whose name I don't remember.

She saw a play the name of which I don't remember.

Elle a vu une pièce dont j'ai oublié le nom.

2 **Whose** se traduit par « **dont** », mais « **dont** » ne se traduit **pas toujours** par **whose**. Pour la synthèse des **traductions de « dont »**, reportez-vous au tableau 32 (→ p. 191)

À noter

tout ce qui : *all that*/tout ce que : *all that/all Ø* [surtout pas *all what*.]

tout ce que j'ai dit : *all Ø I said*

celui/celle, ceux/celles + pronom relatif : *the one/the ones*

celui/celle que je veux : *the one Ø I want*

1 Employez un pronom relatif dans les phrases suivantes (exercice de synthèse).

1. I have read many of the articles he has published in magazines.
2. I'll take you along to a friend of mine will give you a meal.
3. There's little we can do.
4. She found him sympathetic, a man genuinely wanted to help.
5. It was not a question to she gave much thought.
6. The first thought came to my mind was that I would never see him again.
7. All things come to those wait.
8. The people I was talking to have just come back from India.
9. All glitters is not gold.
10. I've met again that girl name I can never remember.

2 Transformez les deux propositions indépendantes en principale + subordonnée relative (exercice de synthèse).

You're wearing a T-shirt. I like it. → I like the T-shirt you're wearing.

1. Above the door there was a notice. The notice said: "To the boats".
2. From the window, she could see the green valley. The railway line ran through this valley.
3. Kathleen had never had to work. Her husband was very wealthy.
4. You sent me a present. Thank you very much for it.
5. The car crashed into a queue of people. Two of them were injured.
6. A man answered the phone. He said that Sandra was out.
7. This is the form. You must fill it up.
8. I wish we had a garden. I could play in that garden.
9. I had tea with a friend. I did not expect his visit.
10. I visited several flats. Most of them were too expensive.

3 Traduisez les phrases suivantes en faisant très attention à la fonction de « dont ». C

1. Je te présente Helen, dont le mari travaille avec moi.
2. Je te présente l'ami dont je t'ai souvent parlé.
3. Est-ce que tu connais le peintre dont les œuvres sont exposées à la Tate Gallery en ce moment
4. Quel est l'animal dont tu as le plus peur ?
5. C'est un pays dont j'aime la culture.
6. Ils ont trois enfants dont deux vivent à l'étranger.
7. La maladie dont elle souffre est très rare.
8. Il possédait une propriété (*estate*) dont le jardin descendait jusqu'à (*slope down*) la rivière.
9. C'est un homme dont on ne sait rien.
10. Est-ce que vous connaissez le propriétaire de la maison dont les vitres sont cassées ?

67

Les relatives (2)

- 1** 1. the articles Ø/which/that 2. a friend of mine who 3. little Ø/that 4. a man who 5. a question to which 6. the first thought that/which 7. those who 8. the people Ø/who/whom/that 9. All that 10. that girl whose name
- 2** 1. Above the door there was a notice which/that said "To the boats". 2. From the window she could see the green valley through which the railway line ran. 3. Kathleen, whose husband was very wealthy, had never had to work. 4. Thank you very much for the present Ø/that/which you sent me. 5. The car crashed into a queue of people, two of whom were injured. 6. The man who answered the phone said Sandra was out. 7. This is the form Ø/that/which you must fill up. 8. I wish we had a garden in which I could play. 9. I had tea with a friend whose visit I did not expect. 10. I visited several flats, most of which were too expensive.
- 3** 1. This is Helen, whose husband works with me. 2. This is the friend Ø/who/whom I have so often told you about. 3. Do you know the painter whose works are exhibited at the Tate Gallery at the moment? 4. What animal are you most scared of? 5. It's a country whose culture I like. 6. They have three children, two of whom live abroad. 7. The disease Ø/which/that she suffers from is very rare. 8. He owned an estate whose garden sloped down/stretched down to the river. 9. He is a man Ø/who/whom we know nothing about. 10. Do you know the owner of the house whose windows are broken?