**Department of Mining**

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**- Annaba –**

**Module: English Language Level: First Year (L1)**

**Lesson 04: Relative Pronouns 2024 / 2025**

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Relative Pronouns

**Definition:**

**What are Relative Pronouns?**

Relative pronouns introduce **relative clauses**, which give additional information about a noun or pronoun in the sentence. These clauses are either **restrictive** (essential to the sentence) or **non-restrictive** (extra information).

**Relative Pronouns:**

**1. Who**

* **Used for**: People (as the subject of the relative clause).
* **Examples**:
  + *The doctor* ***who*** *treated me was kind.*  
    *(The clause "who treated me" tells us which doctor.)*
  + *The students* ***who*** *arrived late were marked absent.*

**2. Whom**

* **Used for**: People (as the object of the relative clause or after prepositions).
* **Examples**:
  + *The woman* ***whom*** *I met yesterday is a lawyer.*  
    *(The clause "whom I met yesterday" gives more information about the woman.)*
  + *The friend* ***to whom*** *I spoke was very supportive.*  
    *(This is formal. In informal English, we’d say: “The friend I spoke to…”)*

**3. Whose**

* **Used for**: Possession (refers to people, animals, or objects).
* **Examples**:
  + *The man* ***whose*** *car broke down needs help.*  
    *(The clause "whose car broke down" explains more about the man.)*
  + *The artist* ***whose*** *work we admired was talented.*

**4. Which**

* **Used for**: Things, animals, or ideas.
* **Examples**:
  + *The book* ***which*** *you lent me is amazing.*  
    *(The clause "which you lent me" tells us which book.)*
  + *The dog,* ***which*** *was barking loudly, calmed down.*  
    *(Non-restrictive: adds extra information about the dog.)*

**5. That**

* **Used for**: People, animals, or things (in restrictive clauses).
* **Examples**:
  + *The car* ***that*** *I want to buy is red.*  
    *(Restrictive: It specifies which car.)*
  + *She is the kind of person* ***that*** *everyone admires.*

**Restrictive vs. Non-Restrictive Clauses:**

 **Restrictive Clauses:** Essential to the sentence; no commas.

* *The house* ***that is painted blue*** *belongs to Sarah.*  
  *(Restricts the meaning to a specific house.)*

** Non-Restrictive Clauses**: Extra information; separated by commas.

* *My house,* ***which is painted blue****, is at the end of the street.*  
  *(The clause adds extra info, but the sentence would still make sense without it.)*

**Relative Pronouns in Action:**

**Example 1 (Restrictive Clause):**

* *I need a teacher* ***who*** *understands calculus.*  
  *(Specifies the kind of teacher.)*

**Example 2 (Non-Restrictive Clause):**

* *Mr. Smith,* ***who*** *is my neighbor, is a chef.*  
  *(Gives extra information about Mr. Smith.)*

**Key Notes:**

1. **Who/Whom**: Use "who" for subjects and "whom" for objects.
   * *The man* ***who*** *called me is here.*
   * *The man* ***whom*** *I called is here.*
2. **That vs. Which**:
   * Use **"that"** for restrictive clauses.
   * Use **"which"** for non-restrictive clauses.