

20. The Relative Pronoun

Read the following examples and fill in the blanks:

- (1) This is the man. The man made the jewellery.

This is the man who made the jewellery.

- (2) This is the book. I want the book.

This is the book that I want.

- (3) I know the handicraft. Meena made the handicraft.

I know the handicraft which Meena made.

- The words 'who', 'which' and 'that' relate or talk about the noun i.e. man, book and handicraft.
- It also acts as a conjunction which joins the two sentences.

The pronoun which relates to the noun before it and acts like a conjunction is called a Relative Pronoun.



Antecedent Relative Pronoun

The man who inspired me is my father. (✓)

My father is the man who inspired me. (X)

The emphasis is on the noun 'man' not 'my father'.

1. Choose the correct words from the brackets:

- (1) This is the clue (whom, which) leads to an argument.
- (2) Savita is the person (who, whom) I chose as the leader.
- (3) This is the plan (who, that) contains all the deadlines.
- (4) Rabindranath Tagore is a great poet (whose, whom) poems are based on nature.
- (5) The guest house is like a hotel (whom, whose) interiors are wonderfully done.
- (6) It was the crowd (that, who) helped to rescue the lady.
- (7) The policeman (who, whose) got the bravery award was honoured.
- (8) Those are the tigers (whose, whom) skin is used as leather.

2. Join the two sentences with the appropriate relative pronoun:

- (1) This is the thing. The thing troubles me.

Ans. This is the thing that troubles me.

- (2) These are the children. The children can be responsible.

Ans. These are the children who can be responsible.

- (3) This is the horse. The horse won the race.

Ans. This is the horse which won the race.

- (4) The servant I know. He is very honest.

Ans. The servant whom I know is very honest.

- (5) Here are the teachers. The teachers' interview was taken by the management.

Ans. Here are the teachers whose interview was taken by the management.

- (6) Hear a story. The characters of the story are fictitious.

Ans. Hear a story the characters of which are fictitious.

- (7) Jump into the river. The river is very deep.

Ans. Jump into the river which is very deep.