Non-defining relative clauses

10 practice questions • Padworth Learning Studio

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. My brother, ___ lives in Leeds, is visiting.

that / who / what

My answer: _____

2. The museum, ___ we visited on Sunday, was fascinating.

which / that / no pronoun

My answer: _____

3. Choose the correct punctuation.

Leila who is my tutor helped me. / Leila, who is my tutor, helped me. / Leila, who is my tutor helped me.

My answer: _____

4. Can we use that after the comma here?

Yes / No / Only for people

My answer: _____

5. Our teacher, ___ office is upstairs, is available today.

whose / who / which

My answer: _____

6. My sister, ___ lives in Leeds, is visiting.

where / who / that

My answer: _____

7. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence.

Paris, which is in France, attracts visitors. / Paris which is in France, attracts visitors. / Paris, that is in France, attracts visitors.

My answer: _____

8. Our car, ___ we bought last year, needs repairs.

that / who / which

My answer: _____

9. Can you omit which in “My laptop, which I bought last month, is broken”?

Only if you keep the commas. / No, retain it in this non-defining clause. / Yes, always omit object pronouns.

My answer: _____

10. Sam, ___ father is a chef, loves cooking.

whose / who / which

My answer: _____

Answer key & explanations

1. **who** — Who introduces extra information about a person.

2. **which** — Which is required; it cannot be omitted in this non-defining clause.

3. **Leila, who is my tutor, helped me.** — The extra-information clause is enclosed in two commas.

4. **No** — That is not used to introduce a non-defining relative clause.

5. **whose** — Whose expresses possession in defining and non-defining clauses.

6. **who** — Who introduces extra information about a person. That is not used in a non-defining clause.

7. **Paris, which is in France, attracts visitors.** — The extra information is enclosed by two commas; which refers to the city.

8. **which** — Which introduces a non-defining clause about a thing; it cannot be replaced by that here.

9. **No, retain it in this non-defining clause.** — Unlike defining clauses, non-defining clauses retain the relative pronoun even when it is an object.

10. **whose** — Whose expresses possession within the extra-information clause.