

2.2 Identifying relative clauses

1 Identifying relative clauses give **more information** about the person, place or thing we are talking about.

1 The bus **that I went to France on** was enormous.

Which bus?

2 The staff **who are on reception now** are very helpful.

Who exactly?

3 The hotel **where we stayed** was too expensive.

Which hotel?

2 We use these **relative pronouns** to help identify what we are talking about.

Noun	Relative pronoun
People	who/that
Things	which/that
Places	where

© Oxford University Press

2.2 Identifying relative clauses

1 We write the identifying relative clause **after** the **noun** it identifies.

- 1 The place **where** we are going tonight is ten minutes away by bus.
- 2 The girl **that** I was talking to yesterday is sitting over there.

2 If an identifying relative clause has a **subject**, we do not add an **object pronoun**.

- 1 These are my friends **who** I met ~~them~~ on holiday.
- 2 A pedestrian crossing is a thing **which** we use ~~it~~ to cross the road safely.

3 If the **subject** or **direct object** of the identifying relative clause is a **place**, we use **which** or **that**, not *where*.

- 1 This is the place **which** I was telling you about.
- 2 I don't know the shopping centre **that** they went to.

2.2 Identifying relative clauses

1 Choose the **correct** options to complete these sentences.

1 The hardest thing ~~who~~ / **that** I have to do at work is public speaking.

2 The café **which** / where sells Moroccan food is our favourite place to eat.

3 Pavement artists are people where / **who** work in the street.

4 Rubbish is a big problem **that** / where we need to deal with.

5 There aren't any restaurants **where** / that you can smoke nowadays.