

Avoiding Repetition

WEEK 12

INTRODUCTION

Sort the pronouns below into the correct place on the table.

Personal	Relative	Indefinite

whom

something

which

you

all

it

everything

whose

neither

that

they

we

INTRODUCTION

Sort the pronouns below into the correct place on the table.

Personal	Relative	Indefinite
you it they we	whom which whose that	something all everything neither

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FLUENCY

Rita was off. She couldn't bare being cooped up inside their ridiculously small caravan with her annoying family any longer. The rain, which hadn't been forecast, had fallen relentlessly all day. She just had to escape, even if it meant getting soaked. Anyone in her position would have done exactly the same.

After saying goodbye to her bemused family, she pulled up her hood and headed down to the beach. She decided to shelter under one of the parasols, which were usually used to protect people from the sun; there wasn't much demand for them today. Rita settled herself down and stared out at the vast expanse of grey, stormy sea.

Suddenly, she heard an unfamiliar voice behind her. "Good, you're here. Don't look round. Keep watching the sea. I've left the package in the usual place. It needs to be delivered by noon tomorrow. Don't be late and don't get caught." Utterly confused, Rita whirled around with the intention of asking this crazy person what on earth he was going on about. However, she was too late; he'd already gone.

Group and list all of the personal, indefinite and relative pronouns that appear in paragraph one. If a pronoun appears several times, write it only once.

TERMINOLOGY

- ▶ A **personal pronoun** is a word which can be used instead of a person, place or thing. There are twelve **personal pronouns** for people: I, you, he, she, it, we, they, me, him, her, us and them.
- ▶ An **indefinite pronoun** is a **pronoun** that refers to a person or a thing without being specific. The most common ones are all, any, anyone, anything, each, everybody, everyone, everything, few, many, nobody, none, one, several, some, somebody, and someone.
- ▶ A **relative pronoun** is a word which is used to refer back to nouns which have already been mentioned in the sentence. **Relative pronouns** can describe people, things (including animals), places and abstract ideas. They can also be used to join two parts of a complex sentence, using **relative clauses**.

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Personal: she, it
Indefinite: anyone
Relative: which

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In paragraph one, does the relative pronoun 'which' refer to Rita, her family, the rain or the caravan?

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An extra sentence has been written to add to paragraph three. Insert an appropriate relative pronoun from the options below to complete the sentence.

The voice, _____ was masculine, sounded robotic and distorted.

who

whom

which

whose

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How many relative clauses are there in paragraph two?

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How many relative clauses are there in paragraph two?

one

APPLICATION

Marcus was beyond excited! He'd been planning this trip for two years, ever since he'd developed an obsession with becoming a magician. Now, after a long, tiring journey, he was finally standing in front of Mr Majestic's Magic Emporium.

But how was he to get in? Worryingly, there appeared to be no handle on the imposing, wooden door, which was covered in magnificently carved images of all things magical. He took a deep breath and knocked loudly; the anticipation was killing him.

After hearing the rattling of locks and latches from the other side, Marcus watched as the door creaked open slowly. Excitedly, he stepped through the doorway and looked for the person who had opened it. Strange – no one was there! It didn't matter though, as Marcus was now standing completely dumbstruck by the sight of the magical marvels that appeared before him.

An extra sentence has been written to add to paragraph one. Change the proper nouns to pronouns to avoid repetition.

Marcus hadn't wanted his mum to come in, as Marcus didn't want her lack of enthusiasm to spoil it for Marcus.

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Rewrite the first sentence of paragraph one to include a relative clause.

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Various answers, for example:

Marcus, who had just arrived at the most amazing place in the world, was beyond excited!

REASONING

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Keisha has written the first sentence of the next paragraph.

The room was dimly lit except for the yellow, twinkling, star-shaped lights, who were scattered across the black ceiling above he.

Has she used relative and personal pronouns accurately? Explain your answer.

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The room was dimly lit except for the yellow, twinkling, star-shaped lights, **who** were scattered across the black ceiling above **he**.

Has she used relative and personal pronouns accurately? Explain your answer.

No. Keisha needs to replace the relative pronoun 'who' with 'which' and the personal pronoun 'he' with 'him'.