

SHQ: What is a relative clause.

WILF:

- I can use the words **who**, **which**, **where** and **whose** to add a clause to my sentence.
- The detail I add to my sentence is after the noun.
- I can use commas at the start and the end of my relative clause.

What is a relative clause?

A relative clause is a type of subordinate clause. A relative clause usually adds more detail about the noun in the main clause.

Relative clauses turn our simple sentences into complex sentences and up level our writing!

For example, this simple sentence:

The boy walked to school.

Can become a complex sentence by adding the clause:

The boy, who was feeling upset, walked to school.

The main clause could stand alone as a simple sentence, but the relative or subordinate clause cannot.

You can add extra information to your sentences,
by adding extra information in a relative clause.

The man was waiting in a queue.

The man, who was a sailor, was waiting in the
queue.

The snarling beast roared with all his might.

The snarling beast, whose breath smelled like
rotting eggs, roared with all his might.

What extra information was added to the sentences?

Where was it added?

What punctuation was added and where?

Give more information about someone or something using words like:

who

whose

which

where

- Example:
- The girl walked into the classroom.
- As the girl, with flaming red hair and freckles on her nose, walked into the classroom, where all heads turned to stare at her.
- The girl, who was feeling very nervous by now, walked into the classroom, although she really felt like bolting out of the door.
- Since this was her first day at her new school, the girl thrust back her shoulders confidently and walked into the classroom, which by now was packed with children.