Relative Clauses (5) – "Extra Information" Clauses (2)

A

Prepositions + whom/which

In "extra information" clauses (see Unit 92 – Type 2), you can use a *preposition* before **whom** (for people) and **which** (for things). So you can say:
to whom / with whom / about which / for which, etc.:

■ Mr. Carter, **to whom** I spoke on the phone last night, is very interested in our plan.
■ Fortunately we had a map, **without which** we would have gotten lost.

In spoken English we often keep the preposition after the verb in the relative clause. When we do this, we normally use **who** (*not* whom) for people:

■ This is Mr. Carter, **who** I was telling you **about**.
■ Yesterday we visited the City Museum, **which** I'd never been **to** before.

B

All of / most of, etc. + whom/which

Study these examples:

Mary has three brothers. All of **them** are married. *(2 sentences)*

→ Mary has three brothers, **all of whom** are married. *(1 sentence)*

They asked me a lot of questions. I couldn't answer most of **them** . *(2 sentences)*

→ They asked me a lot of questions, **most of which** I couldn't answer. *(1 sentence)*

In the same way you can say:
none of / neither of / any of / either of
some of / many of / much of / (a) few of
both of / half of / each of / one of / two of (etc.) } + **whom** (people)
+ **which** (things)

■ Tom tried on three jackets, **none of which** fit him.
■ Two men, **neither of whom** I had ever seen before, came into my office.
■ They have three cars, **two of which** they never use.
■ Sue has a lot of friends, **many of whom** she went to school with.

C

Which

Study this example:

Jim passed his driving test. **This** surprised everybody. *(2 sentences)*

Jim passed his driving test, **which** surprised everybody. *(1 sentence)*
└──── *relative clause* ────┘

In this example, **which** = the fact that he passed his driving test. You must use **which** (*not* what) in sentences like these:

■ Sheila couldn't come to the party, **which** was a shame. (*not* . . . what was a shame)
■ The weather was very good, **which** we hadn't expected. (*not* . . . what we hadn't expected)

For **what,** see also Units 89C and 90D.

Exercises

93.1 Make two sentences from one. Use the sentence in parentheses to make the relative clause.

1. Mr. Carter is very interested in our plan. (I spoke to him on the phone last night.)
   Mr. Carter, to whom I spoke on the phone last night, is very interested in our plan.
2. This is a picture of our friends. (We went on vacation with these friends.)
   This is a picture _____ .
3. The wedding took place last Friday. (Only members of the family were invited to it.)
   The wedding, _____ .
4. Sheila finally arrived. (We had been waiting for her.)
   _____
5. My room has a very large window. (You can see the whole lake.)
   _____

93.2 Write sentences with *all of / most of*, etc. + *whom/which.*

1. Mary has three brothers. (All of her brothers are married.)
   Mary has three brothers, all of whom are married.
2. We were given a lot of information. (Most of the information was useless.)
   We were given _____ .
3. There were a lot of people at the party. (I had met only a few of these people before.)
   _____
4. I sent her two letters. (She has received neither of these letters.)
   _____
5. Ten people applied for the job. (None of these people were suitable.)
   _____
6. Kate has two cars. (She hardly ever uses one of them.)
   _____
7. Mike won $50,000. (He gave half of this to his parents.)
   _____
8. Julia has two sisters. (Both of her sisters are teachers.)
   _____

93.3 Join a sentence from Box A with a sentence from Box B to make a new sentence. Use *which.*

A	B
1. ~~Lauren couldn't come to the party.~~	This was very nice of her.
2. Jill doesn't have a phone.	This means we can't take our trip tomorrow.
3. Neil has passed his exams.	This makes it difficult to contact her.
4. Our flight was delayed.	This makes it difficult to sleep.
5. Ann offered to let me stay at her house.	~~This was a shame.~~
6. The street I live on is very noisy at night.	This is good news.
7. Our car has broken down.	This meant we had to wait four hours at the airport.

1. Lauren couldn't come to the party, _which was a shame_ .
2. Jill doesn't _____ .
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____