



Relative Pronouns

Who

- refers to a person or people.
- may be used with a clause that makes a noun specific
- may be used with a clause that adds information

People *who* live in New York lead very busy lives.
My sister, *who* works for the YMCA, leads a very active life.

Which

- refers to a thing or concept
- is most often used in clauses that add information
- is sometimes used in a clause that makes a noun specific (usually when a speaker or writer wants to sound more formal).

The Empire State Building, *which* used to be the tallest building in the world, is still a popular tourist attraction.
The lessons *which* we have learned are no more important than the lessons *which* we have yet to learn.

That

- is used only in clauses that make a noun more specific
- most often refers to a thing or concept
- is sometimes used to refer to a person or people, (usually only in informal writing or in speaking)

The book *that* you gave me is lost
The kid *that* I babysit threw your book in the trash.