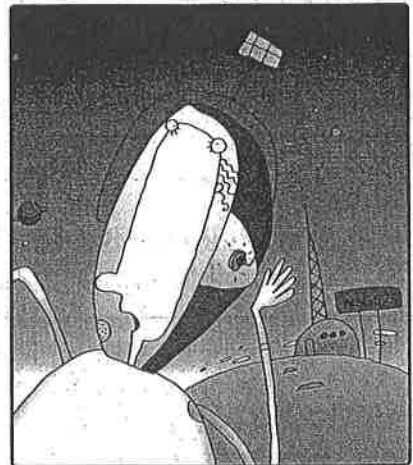


Sentence Combining with Relative Pronouns

You can combine two simple sentences into a complex sentence using adjective clauses. An adjective clause is one that begins with a word like *who*, *which*, or *that* (called *relative pronouns*). Combining ideas with these words will help you cut down on unnecessary repetition in your writing. To learn how this is done, study the examples below as well as the examples in your handbook. (Turn to pages 96 and 444-445 in *Write Source 2000*.)



EXAMPLES

Simple Sentences:

The radio station played unfamiliar songs.

The radio station was geared for an older audience.

Combined into a Complex Sentence:

The radio station, which was geared for an older audience, played unfamiliar songs.

(By combining the two ideas with *which*, the unnecessary repetition of *radio station* is avoided.)

Simple Sentences:

The newspaper gives detailed statistics for major league baseball.

The newspaper is delivered to our school.

Combined into a Complex Sentence:

The newspaper that is delivered to our school gives detailed statistics for major league baseball.

(By combining the two ideas with *that*, the unnecessary repetition of *newspaper* is avoided.)

Directions

Combine the following pairs of simple sentences into one complex sentence. In each case, a relative pronoun, other key words, and punctuation marks have already been put into place. The first one has been done for you.

1. The beady-eyed mail carrier delivers on Wednesdays. The beady-eyed mail carrier is my uncle.

The beady-eyed mail carrier who delivers on Wednesdays is my uncle.

2. The waitress works at the corner cafe. She looks sad and weary.

The waitress who _____ looks

_____.

3. The pink Cadillac was parked in the driveway. The pink Cadillac convertible was dented by hail.

The pink Cadillac convertible that _____

was dented _____.

4. The statue stood by the birdbath in the garden. It was stolen.

The statue that _____

was _____.

5. Pluto is the most distant planet in our solar system. It takes 248 years to orbit the sun.

Pluto, which _____,

is _____.

6. The extreme heat affected the runners. The runners were participating in the conference relays.

The extreme heat _____ who

were _____.

7. John's half-eaten apple is a Golden Delicious. The apple is now totally brown.

John's half-eaten apple, which is now _____,

is _____.



Next Step Turn to your handbook and find out when you should use "who/which/that." Discuss the results of your research with a classmate.

Sentence Combining with Adjective Clauses

Using adjective clauses to combine simple sentences will help you avoid unnecessary repetition in your writing. (Adjective clauses begin with words like *who*, *whose*, *which*, and *that*.) But be careful. Too many *who*'s or *which*'s will make your writing sound textbookish.

Who, **whose**, **which**, and **that** are called *relative pronouns*. Look at section 444.1 in your *Write Source 2000* handbook for a definition of relative pronouns and then write that definition in the space provided below. (See page 96 and sections 444.1-445.2 for additional information.)

Definition: A relative pronoun is both a . . .

EXAMPLE

Shorter Sentences:

The ancient oak was destroyed in the storm. It stood near the park entrance.

Combined Sentence Using an Adjective Clause:

The ancient oak *that stood at the park entrance* was destroyed in the storm.

(*That stood at the park entrance* is an adjective clause that modifies *oak*.)

Directions

Combine each pair of simple sentences into one complex sentence using *who*, *which*, or *that* as a connector.

- The bearded wrestler gave his opponent a bear hug. The bearded wrestler was slick with sweat.

The bearded wrestler, who was slick with sweat, gave his opponent a

bear hug.

- The night air revived him after his day in the fields. The air was cool and sweet smelling.



3. The construction workers were treated for heat exhaustion. They were building the new road through the park.

4. The sun is the center of our solar system. The sun is 93 million miles away.

5. The tracks led to the old miner's shack. The tracks were freshly made.

6. By the side of the road lay the ruined glider. It had been destined for Paris.

7. The agents escaped across the border. The agents set Mr. Goodwin free.

8. Rudy seldom checks out books. He would rather rap than read.



Next Step Many of the complex sentences you have made require commas. (The commas set off the adjective clause from the rest of the sentence.) Read about **restrictive** and **nonrestrictive clauses** in section 392.2 of your *Write Source 2000* handbook and check your sentences.