

Step 1: Pronouns To Avoid Repetition – Fiction

Introduction

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

Personal Pronoun	Relative Pronoun

she

who

they

which

whose

them

we

that

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Personal Pronoun	Relative Pronoun
she	who
they	which
them	whose
we	that

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Varied Fluency 1

Lydia had to be fast, and she had to be accurate. Mount Foden was at least thirty miles away and the accident sounded like a bad one. If the climber was trapped on the south side of the mountain, landing would be very tricky indeed. She was glad Akamu, who had been on over a hundred missions, was accompanying her. He was busily working out exactly where the climber had fallen. She trusted him to get it right.

“It’s not looking good, Lyds.” Akamu’s voice buzzed into her headset. “It’s a south side landing. Do you remember those waterfalls which I flew you past last year? The ones that look golden if you catch them at the right time? I’m afraid it looks like that’s where we’re heading. It’s going to be a tough pick up.”

Mount Foden slowly came into view. As they crossed onto its south side, Lydia recognised the falls, which she now recalled having seen before. White water crashed and tumbled down a steep furrow in the side of the looming mountain. Somewhere down there, a climber was desperate for help. Lydia touched her necklace, then began the descent.

Look at paragraph 3. Write a list of all the personal or possessive pronouns and a list of all the relative pronouns in the paragraph. If a pronoun appears several times, only write it once.

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Personal or possessive pronouns: they, its, she, her

Relative pronoun: which

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In paragraph 1, who or what is referred to by both the personal pronoun ‘he’ and the relative pronoun ‘who’?

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Varied Fluency 3

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Jack adds the following relative clause to this sentence from paragraph 2:

Akamu’s voice, _____ lacked its usual optimism, buzzed into her headset.

Should he use the relative pronoun ‘who’ or ‘which’?

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Find and copy a relative clause in paragraph 1.

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Application 1

Three black figures slipped soundlessly along the foot of the wall. The guards, who kept watch every night from high towers, saw nothing. Kenji and his team got to work.

“Lex, the lab door has a fingerprint scanner which you’ll need to hack to get inside,” he explained. “I’ll ensure the escape route is clear for when you appear with the samples. Jari, you know which way the roof is.”

The thinnest member of the team nodded. He fiddled with a button on his watch and the fingers and toes of his suit turned a dull blue. Without a word he disappeared up the lab’s concrete wall, clinging and crawling like a lizard.

Several minutes later, having knocked out the guards, Kenji was in position. He drummed his fingers impatiently. Where were they? Had they run into trouble? It was only a simple fingerprint scanner...

Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 4. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal pronouns.

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Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 4. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal pronouns.

Various answers, for example:

He was beginning to feel anxious as they should have been here by now.

Application 2

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Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 1 to include the relative pronoun ‘whose’.

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Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 1 to include the relative pronoun ‘whose’.

Various answers, for example:

Three black figures, whose job it was to infiltrate the building, slipped soundlessly along the foot of the wall.

Reasoning 1

The thinnest member of the team nodded. He fiddled with a button on his watch and the fingers and toes of his suit turned a dull blue. Without a word he disappeared up the lab's concrete wall, clinging and crawling like a lizard.

Tamara adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 3:

The thinnest member of the team, which was also a genius with technology, nodded.

She uses the relative pronoun 'which'.

Has she used the correct relative pronoun? Explain how you know.

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Tamara is incorrect because...

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Tamara is incorrect because she should have used the relative pronoun 'who' which is used when referring to people.