RELATIVE SENTENCES

These sentences give EXTRA information about a noun, a place, a thing...

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

WHO - to refer to people
WHICH - to refer to things
THAT - general relative to refer to both people or things
WHERE - to refer to places
WHEN - to refer to time
WHOM - after prepositions, refers to people
WHOSE - to refer to possessions

TYPES OF RELATIVE CLAUSES:

Defining relative clauses: No commas, explain something essential to the sentence, you cannot remove it from the main clause:

“The woman who paid my lunch was an absolute stranger to me”

Non-defining relative clauses: Between commas, they can be removed from the main sentence and the meaning is not much varied:

“The square, where I had always played as a child, remained untouched”
“The man, who came to my house, was annoying”
“The man, THAT came to my house, was annoying” INCORRECT

Relative THAT cannot be used in non-defining relative clauses.
FORMAL AND INFORMAL STRUCTURES

- Amb qui estaves quan et vaig veure?
  With whom were you when I saw you?  FORMAL ENGLISH
  Who were you with when I saw you? INFORMAL ENGLISH- MORE COMMON

Join the two sentences in one by using a relative pronoun:

- Our customers have some complaints. I’d like to respond to them.

Our customers have some complaints which I’d like to respond to. Informal
Our customers have some complaints to which I’d like to respond. Formal

- Mary is the boss. You have to discuss this issue with her.

Mary is the boss who you have to discuss this issue with. Informal
Mary is the boss with whom you have to discuss this issue. Formal

- The police have found the man. This wallet belongs to him.

The police have found the man who this wallet belongs to. Informal
The police have found the man to whom this wallet belongs. Formal

- There is a lottery. Our members can participate in it.

There is a lottery which our members can participate in. Informal
There is a lottery in which our members can participate. Formal