

Advanced 1  
Unit 6: Language Focus 2  
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**Reduction of Adjective Clauses  
into Adjective Phrases**

Whenever in an adjective clause, the relative pronoun is the subject of the clause, it is possible to reduce the adjective clause into an adjective phrase.

**relative pronoun** = WH words such as who, that, which, how, ... used as the conjunction in an adjective clause

In order to reduce the adjective clause into an adjective phrase, we have to omit the relative pronoun, the auxiliary verb and use the participle (either the present participle or the past participle) of the main verb.

**auxiliary verb** = helping verb

**present participle** = verb + ing

**past participle** = verb + ed (for regular verbs)

Examples:

The mechanic **who is repairing the car** has been officially trained by the car manufacturer.

The mechanic **repairing the car** has been officially trained by the car manufacturer.

The man **who came to the party** was from El Paso.

The man **coming to the party** was from El Paso.

The car **which has been repaired** by the mechanic belongs to Mr. Tomlinson.

The car **repaired by the mechanic** belongs to Mr. Tomlinson.

The explanation **which is given in this book** is outstanding.

The explanation **given in this book** is outstanding.

**Point:**

It is also possible to reduce an adjective clause into a prepositional phrase.

**Prepositional Phrase = Preposition + Noun Phrase**

Example:

*The car **which is on the corner** was repaired by the mechanic yesterday.*

*The car **on the corner** was repaired by the mechanic yesterday.*

*The explanation **which is in this book** is outstanding.*

*The explanation **in this book** is outstanding.*

**Examples for Irreducible Adjective Clauses:**

We cannot reduce the adjective clauses in the following sentences because the relative pronoun of the adjective clause does not function as the subject of the clause.:

The man **whom I met** is the CEO (chief executive officer) of the company.

I ⇒ Subject of the Clause

whom ⇒ Object of the Clause

The house **which Mr. Williams has bought** is located in a very convenient neighborhood.

Mr. Williams ⇒ Subject of the Clause

which ⇒ Object of the Clause

**Source:**

[Advanced 1 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)