



Relative and Participle Clauses — B2 exercises

Printable worksheet · 23 questions · answer key with explanations on the last page
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Name _____ Date _____ Score _____ / 23

A. Multiple choice

10 questions

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- The candidates ____ in the corridor had all been waiting over an hour.
A) waited B) who waiting C) waiting D) which waited
- The letters ____ last week have still not arrived.
A) sent B) sending C) which sending D) who sent
- ____ the evidence, the committee reached a unanimous decision.
A) Having reviewed B) Reviewing had C) Have reviewed D) Reviewed having
- ____ in 1954, the building is now protected by law.
A) Completing B) Completed C) Having completing D) Complete
- The firm employs four hundred people, most of ____ work remotely.
A) whom B) who C) that D) which
- She submitted three designs, none of ____ satisfied the brief.
A) them B) which C) that D) what
- The deadline was moved twice, ____ made proper planning impossible.
A) that B) what C) who D) which
- Which is the formal written equivalent of 'the room we met in'?
A) the room which we met B) the room in which we met
C) the room that we met in which D) the room in that we met
- Applicants ____ a relevant degree may skip the first stage.
A) held B) who holding C) which hold D) holding
- Which sentence is INCORRECT?
A) The man to whom I spoke was helpful. B) The man to who I spoke was helpful.
C) The man who I spoke to was helpful. D) The man I spoke to was helpful.

B. Fill in the blank

8 questions

Write the missing word or words in the gap.

- The passengers _____ on the platform had been there for two hours.
- The documents _____ to the tribunal last month have not been returned.

3. _____ reviewed the evidence, the panel adjourned until Thursday.
4. The company has six hundred staff, half of _____ are on short contracts.
5. She wrote four novels, none of _____ sold more than a thousand copies.
6. The train was cancelled twice, _____ made the whole journey pointless.
7. This is the house in _____ the treaty was signed in 1783.
8. The author, _____ first book was banned, later won the national prize.

C. Sentence building

5 questions

Put the words in the correct order and write the sentence on the line.

1. remains / Written / novel / controversial. / in / 1954, / the

Open with a passive participle clause giving background.

2. Having / home. / the / report, / she / went / finished

Open with a perfect participle clause.

3. tickets. / people / outside / have / The / no / waiting

Reduce an active relative clause to one word.

4. withdrawn. / been / report / year / has / last / The / written

Reduce a passive relative clause.

5. we / demolished. / has / been / The / room / in / which / met

Front the preposition for a formal register.

Answer key

Every answer carries the reason behind it. Read the reason for the questions you got right as well — that is where you find out whether you were right for the right reason.

A. Multiple choice

1. **C) waiting** — An active relative clause reduces to the bare -ing form with the pronoun and verb dropped.
2. **A) sent** — A passive relative clause reduces to the past participle alone.
3. **A) Having reviewed** — A perfect participle clause is having plus the past participle and marks the earlier action.
4. **B) Completed** — A passive participle clause of reason uses the past participle on its own.
5. **A) whom** — After a quantifier and of, the pronoun for people is whom, never who or that.
6. **B) which** — Quantifier plus of plus which is the structure for things, and them would need a full stop before it.
7. **D) which** — Sentential which comments on the whole preceding clause and cannot be replaced by that.
8. **B) the room in which we met** — The fronted preposition takes which, never that, and the clause keeps its normal order.
9. **D) holding** — An active reduction uses the -ing form and condenses who hold into one word.
10. **B) The man to who I spoke was helpful.** — After a preposition the object form whom is obligatory; who cannot follow to.

B. Fill in the blank

1. **standing** — An active relative clause reduces to the bare -ing form.
2. **submitted** — A passive relative clause reduces to the past participle alone.
3. **Having** — The perfect participle clause opens with this word plus a past participle.
4. **whom** — After a quantifier and of, people take the object form of the relative pronoun.
5. **which** — The quantifier structure for things uses this relative pronoun after of.
6. **which** — A relative pronoun commenting on a whole clause can only be this one.
7. **which** — A fronted preposition must be followed by this pronoun, never by that.
8. **whose** — The possessive relative pronoun works for both people and things.

C. Sentence building

1. **Written in 1954, the novel remains controversial.**
2. **Having finished the report, she went home.**
3. **The people waiting outside have no tickets.**
4. **The report written last year has been withdrawn.**
5. **The room in which we met has been demolished.**