

French 2

Chapter 9 Grammar Review

Relative Pronouns

1. **DEFINED:** A Relative Pronoun introduces a descriptive clause. That is to say, a clause that is used to describe the noun before it, which identifies it, or tells us more about it. That clause is called a Relative Clause. In English, the Relative Pronouns are often “*that, which, who, whom, and whose*”:

Ex: The lady **who** made the dress. → The clause “*made the dress*” describes the lady
 Ex: It’s the pie **that** had been burnt. → The clause “*had been burnt*” tells us about the pie.

2. **QUI, QUE, DONT:** Relative Pronouns in French work the same way and differ depending upon whether they’re: (1) introducing a verb, (2) introducing a subject, (3) or replacing a prepositional phrase starting with “de”. They are as follows: “*qui, que, or dont*”:

| <i>Pronoun:</i> | qui | que | dont |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Meaning:</i> | <i>that, which, who</i> | <i>that, which, whom</i> | <i>of which, of whom, whose</i> |
| <i>Usage:</i> | Used before a verb | Used before the subject | Replaces the preposition de |

Ex: C’est un film. Le film est chouette! → C’est un film **qui** est chouette!!!
It’s a movie. The movie is awesome! *It’s a movie that is awesome!*

Ex: C’est un film. On le joue au cinéma. → C’est un film **qu’**on joue au cinéma.
It’s a movie. It’s playing at the cinema. *It’s a movie that’s playing at cinema.*

Ex: C’est le film. Je parle de le film. → C’est un film **dont** je parle.
It’s the movie. I’m talking about the movie. *It’s the movie that I’m talking about.*

Present Participles

1. **FORMATION:** Present Participles are equivalent to the *-ing* form of the verb in English. To form the Present Participle, remove the **-ons** ending of the **nous** form and add the ending **-ant**.
 Ex: nous finissons → finissant (*finishing*) Ex: nous mangeons → mangeant (*eating*)

2. **IRREGULARS:** Être, Avoir, and Savoir are irregular. Their Present Participles are as follows: *étant, ayant, and sachant*:
 Ex: L’acteur, **étant** très célèbre, a reçu le grand prix!

3. **EN or TOUT EN:** Use **en** or **tout en** to say someone is doing something while doing something else!
 Ex: Ils ont quitté le cinéma (**tout**) **en** parlant du film.
They left the theatre (while) talking about the movie.

4. **AS ADJECTIVES:** Present Participles can be used as adjectives and agree in gender and number.
 Ex: C’est **une** histoire passionnate. Ex: Ce sont **des** histoires passionnates.
It’s an exciting story. *They’re exciting stories.*

Interrogative Pronouns

- Interrogative Pronouns are like Interrogative Adjectives (*quel, quelle, quels, quelles*) in that they ask a question referring to a noun. Unlike Interrogative Adjectives however, the Interrogative Pronoun replaces the noun and asks *which one(s)*. They agree in gender and number with the replaced noun.

| | Masculine | Feminine |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| Singular | lequel | laquelle |
| Plural | lesquels | lesquelles |

Ex: Il y va avoir un jeu et un feuilleton à la télé ce soir. *Lequel* veux-tu regarder?

Ex: Comme présentatrice, *laquelle* est-ce que tu préfères?

- INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN vs. ADJECTIVE:** As stated above, an Interrogative Adjective asked which one and uses a noun. The Interrogative Pronoun replaces the noun.

Ex: *Quelle vedette* est-ce que tu aimes? → Interrogative *Adjective* asks which *vedette*.

Ex: *Laquelle* est-ce que tu aimes? → Interrogative *Pronoun* replaces the *vedette*.

Demonstrative Pronouns

- Demonstrative Pronouns are like Demonstrative Adjectives (*ce, cet, cette, ces*) in that they refer to a noun. Unlike Demonstrative Adjectives however, the Demonstrative Pronoun replaces the noun and states *this/that one(s)*. They agree in gender and number with the replaced noun.

| | Masculine | Feminine |
|----------|-----------|----------|
| Singular | celui | celle |
| Plural | ceux | celles |

Ex: Quel film est-ce que j'aime? *Celui* avec les animaux qui habitent au zoo!!

Ex: Les documentaires? J'aime seulement *ceux* qui sont intéressants!

- THIS/THESE ONE(S) vs THAT/THOSE ONE(S):** To highlight the relative distance and distinguish *this one* from *that one* or *these ones* from *those ones*, add **-ci** or **-là** to the end of the noun.

Ex: Regarde ces acteurs! *Celui-ci* est incroyable, mais *celui-là* est ennuyeux!

- DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN vs. ADJECTIVE:** As stated above, a Demonstrative Adjective indicates which one and uses a noun. The Demonstrative Pronoun replaces the noun.

Ex: *Cette vedette-ci* est ma préférée! → Demonstrative *Adjective* states which *vedette*.

Ex: *Celle-ci* est ma préférée! → Demonstrative *Pronoun* replaces the *vedette*.