

RELATIVE CLAUSES IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR

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Annotation: This article is devoted to deviations from the linguistic norm in the use of such English relative pronouns as "who" and "whose", and the mechanisms that cause these deviations. It is shown that in usage the boundaries of the norm of the use of the pronoun "who" are expanded, allowing it to be used to describe representatives of various classes of animals, as well as a means of grammatical stylistics when describing inanimate objects, while in the case of the pronoun "whose" there is a narrowing of the boundaries. norms up to the area including only living beings.

Key words and phrases: English; pronouns; norm; uzus; personification; anthropomorphism.

Relative pronouns in English are the class of words whose use in speech is characterized by certain fluctuations. In addition, the structure of this class of words is somewhat asymmetric. These properties of relative pronouns served as a starting point for their more detailed consideration within the framework of this article.

Relative pronouns in English include the pronouns which, that, who, as well as the case forms whom and whose, the use of which is regulated by the nature of the antecedent, namely its animateness/inanimateness. In various publications that deal with the grammar of the English language, similar views on their use are expressed. Let's look at a number of formulations as an example.

WHO

Who: "used to introduce a clause giving further information about a person or people previously mentioned" / is used to introduce a subordinate clause containing information about the previously mentioned person or people (hereinafter, the translation of the author of the article is O.T.).

"The relative pronoun who is distinctive in that it is used almost exclusively with an animate (human) head" / The relative pronoun who differs in that it is almost without exception used to refer to an animate referent (person).

WHICH

"...which is for the most part found with nouns that take it, and who with those that take he or she" ...which is most often used with nouns substituted for it, and who is used with nouns substituted for he or she.

".the relative pronoun which rarely occurs with an animate head". The relative pronoun which rarely denotes an animate antecedent.

"Which: used referring to something previously mentioned when introducing a clause giving further information" is used in relation to something previously mentioned when introducing a subordinate clause containing additional information.

THAT

"We often use that instead of who or which, especially in an informal style". We often use that instead of who or which, especially in colloquial speech.

That: "the general relative pronoun, referring to any antecedent, and used without inflexion irrespective of gender, number, and case" / is a general relative pronoun that refers to any antecedent and is used without changing the form, regardless of gender, number, and case.

WHOSE

"The contrast between personal who and non-personal which is neutralized in the genitive, where whose is the only form. It occurs with both personal and non-personal antecedents" . The contrast between who, denoting a person, and which, denoting an object, is neutralized in the possessive case, where there is only one form - whose. It is used with both animate and inanimate antecedents.

Whose: "used to indicate that the following noun belongs to or is associated with the person or thing mentioned in the previous clause" is used to indicate that the following noun belongs to or is related to the person or thing mentioned in the previous part of the compound sentence.

From the above and other descriptions in the reference literature, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The pronoun which in restrictive attributive sentences is used when the antecedent denotes a certain object, and the pronoun who - when the antecedent denotes a living being (primarily a person).
2. The pronoun that is more flexible and can be combined with both kinds of antecedents. Equally flexible is the possessive definitive pronoun whose, which can refer to both animate and inanimate antecedents.
3. In descriptive attributive sentences, the distinctions are clearer. The designation of the animate antecedent is carried out with the help of the pronoun who or its case form whom, and the inanimate - with the help of the pronoun which.

Definitive pronouns in English

Case Restrictive attributive clauses Descriptive attributive clauses

Animated antecedent Inanimate antecedent Animated antecedent Inanimate antecedent

Subjective who that which that who which

object whom that zero which that zero whom

Possessive whose

In real language usage, we are dealing with form fluctuations in cases where the grammatical norm is not clearly spelled out, as happens, for example, with boundaries in the use of the relative pronoun *who*. As noted earlier, it is used primarily to describe a person, however, in a number of normative sources, its use in describing higher animals is separately stipulated and it is noted that the use of this pronoun to refer to an animal depends, first of all, on the position of the speaker. If the speaker puts the intelligence of the animal in high positions, experiences

warm feelings for an animal or communicates information about his beloved pet, then he may prefer a more “personal” pronoun, as in the case of personal pronouns, when a native speaker chooses the gender pronouns *he* or *she* instead of the normative *it*. However, in the usage there are examples of the use of the pronoun *who* that go beyond this framework.

"The test was tried first on the horse who was regarded as having the lowest intelligence: a mare who lived around the family home" First, the test was tested on a horse that was considered the most stupid - a mare who lived near the family's house.

"But for a beetle who can think only in terms of two dimensions, it does appear to shrink" . But to the beetle, which thinks only in two dimensions, it seems that it (measuring tape) is shortened.

In the first example, a negative assessment of the animal's intelligence is visible, but this does not prevent the speaker from using the pronoun *who*. In the second example, the pronoun *who* is used to describe an insect.

Another confirmation of the blurring of the norm for the use of this pronoun is the comments of users of various Internet sites. The opinions of users discussing the possibility of using the pronoun *who* to describe an animal vary quite a lot.

"A living being (a dog, a cat, a cow, a human being) is not a thing, and it has a personality, so it is a *who*" A living being (dog, cat, cow, human) is not a thing; it has a character, and therefore it must be denoted by the pronoun *who*.

"I love animals, but am not sentimental about them, and would generally use *which*, although in most cases I wouldn't use *which* in referring to an elephant or a great ape, for instance" [9]. / I love animals, but not excessively, and usually use the pronoun *which*, but in most cases I would not use the pronoun *which* when describing, for example, an elephant or a monkey.

"Which is used for animals but The wolf who came to dinner is an example of personification - a poetic or literary device" [Ibidem]. / Which is used to describe animals, but sentences like The wolf who came to dinner are an example of personification (a poetic or literary device).

Blurred boundaries are reflected in publishing codes of practice. For example, the Associated Press guidelines recommend using the pronoun *who* in relation to an animal only when its gender and name are known , while the guidelines of the American

Psychological Association (APA Style), which is widely used for designing publications dedicated to the social sciences, it is recommended to use the pronoun that to describe any animal.

In addition to vague linguistic norms regarding allied pronouns used to describe living beings, there are examples of the use of the pronoun who to describe purely inanimate antecedents in the language. This usage is typical mainly for artistic discourse and is automatically read as a stylistic means aimed at creating a certain image.

The use of the pronoun who as a means of personification occurs primarily in poetic works:

"...He swung about his head and cut the winds,
Who, nothing hurt withal, hissed him in scorn".
... became overhead
With a sword he cuts the wind, and the wind,
Not damaged, bood him.

"Ye clouds, who are the ornament of heaven, Who give to it its gayest shadowings" Oh, the clouds that adorn the sky

And they frame them with the brightest shadows (translated by the author of the article - O. T.) ...

"Yet Time, who changes all, had altered him In soul and aspect as in age" He was only deeply touched by Time. The inexorable Fire of the soul, an excess of feelings and strength takes away his run

"...A silent evil joy
Like a star-broken stone
Who nothing knows more can happen to it
In its cradle-grave"
... Quiet, sinister joy,
Like a stone broken by a star
What he knows - nothing else will happen to him
In his cradle-grave (translated by the author of the article - O. T.).

In these examples, objects and phenomena of the surrounding world (winds, clouds, stone), as well as the abstract concept of time (Time) are personified. It should be noted that items belonging to

to these categories are quite often metaphorically presented as living entities in English-language literary works.

The pronoun who as a means of personification can also be used in prose, but such cases are more rare. When analyzing sources (more than 50 works of fiction), the author was able to identify examples of such use in only one source (the novel *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak):

"From there, they all examined the apple trees, who stood in long, twisted rows" .From where they stood, the gang looked at the apple trees, which were lined up in long cranked rows.

"It was one of those moments of perfect tiredness, of having conquered not only the work at hand, but the night who had blocked the way" . One of those moments of absolute fatigue and overcoming not only homework, but also the night that blocked the path.

"There was the sound of opening and dragging, and then the fuzzy silence who followed". Opening and dragging reached her, then they were replaced by fluffy silence.

As you know, language is a developing organism, and the above examples show how the usus seeks to balance the asymmetric system of relative pronouns. In addition, it is worth emphasizing once again that its elements, such as the pronouns who and whose, are inextricably linked in the minds of English speakers with the category of animation and influence how native speakers build their statements, as well as how they perceive statements and texts.

List of used literature:

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