**Practice Sheet: That vs. Which Solutions**

**Exercise 1: Placing “that” or “which” correctly**

Now you can compare your sentences with the solutions and see how you did.

1. The painting **which** hangs in the gallery was a gift from an anonymous donor.

Explanation: The clause provides additional information about the painting. It's a non-defining (non-restrictive) clause, as indicated by the context suggesting that there's only one painting being discussed.

1. I can't find the report **that** I left on your desk yesterday.

Explanation: “I left on your desk yesterday” is essential to identify the report in question. It's a defining (restrictive) clause.

1. The old mansion, **which** has been abandoned for decades, is rumored to be haunted.

Explanation: The clause adds extra information about the mansion and is set off by commas, indicating a non-defining (non-restrictive) clause.

1. She showed me the letters **that** were hidden in the attic.

Explanation: “Were hidden in the attic” is necessary to specify which letters are being discussed. It's a defining (restrictive) clause.

1. The book **that** you recommended is out of stock.

Explanation: “You recommended” specifies which book is being referred to, making it a defining (restrictive) clause.

1. Our house, **which** we bought last year, needs a lot of repairs.

Explanation: “We bought last year” provides additional information about the house but is not essential to identify it. The sentence is structured to suggest there's only one house being discussed, making it a non-defining (non-restrictive) clause.

1. The book **that** she borrowed from the library was out of print.

Explanation: Use “that” because the clause identifies the specific book she borrowed.

1. I need the report **that** covers our financials for the last quarter.

Explanation: “That” is used as the clause is essential to the meaning of the sentence, specifying which report is needed.

1. The jacket **which** was on sale last week is now out of stock.

Explanation: Use “which” here; the information about the sale is not essential to the meaning of the sentence (non-restrictive clause).

1. We should consider the proposal **that** we discussed yesterday.

Explanation: Use “that” because the clause provides essential information about the proposal being considered.

1. She owns a collection of stamps **which** is quite valuable.

Explanation: Use “which” as the clause is adding extra information about the collection and is non-restrictive.

1. The path **that** leads to the old farmhouse is overgrown.

Explanation: Use “that” as it introduces a necessary detail about which path is being described.

1. The flowers **which** you see in the vase are from her garden.

Explanation: “Which” is appropriate as it adds non-essential information about the origin of the flowers.

1. They returned the wallet **that** they found on the subway.

Explanation: Use “that” because the clause is essential for identifying the wallet.

1. There are many issues **that** need to be addressed immediately.

Explanation: “That” is needed as the clause is necessary for specifying the issues.

1. The cake recipe **that** you sent me was fantastic.

Explanation: Use “that” as the clause specifies which recipe you’re talking about.

1. He has a condition **that** requires immediate attention.

Explanation: “That” is correct here because the clause is defining the condition further.

1. The books on the shelf **which** have red covers are mine.

Explanation: Use “which” since the clause is non-restrictive, merely adding additional information about the books.

1. The car **that** he bought last year is already having problems.

Explanation: Use “that” to indicate specifically which car is being talked about.

1. This is the theory **that** can explain our observations.

Explanation: Use “that” because the clause is essential to identify which theory is meant.

**Remember:** When deciding between “that” and “which,” remember that **“that”** is used for **restrictive** clauses, which are necessary to the meaning of the sentence. **“Which”** is used for **non-restrictive** clauses, which can be removed without changing the fundamental meaning of the sentence.

**Exercise 2: True or false statements**

Here are the solutions to the true or false statements. How did you do?

**Statement 1**

The word “that” should be used only in restrictive clauses, which are necessary to the meaning of the sentence.

1. True [x]
2. False [ ]

**Statement 2**

“Which” is used with commas to introduce clauses that can be omitted without altering the basic meaning of the sentence.

1. True [x]
2. False [ ]

**Statement 3**

“That” and “which” are completely interchangeable in formal writing.

1. True [ ]
2. False [x]

**Statement 4**

You should use “which” without commas to introduce essential information about a noun mentioned earlier in the sentence.

1. True [ ]
2. False [x]

**Statement 5**

A “which” clause can sometimes be used without commas if it specifies the only thing being referred to in the context.

1. True [ ]
2. False [x]

**Statement 6**

“That” is often used in spoken English to introduce clauses, regardless of whether the information is essential or additional.

1. True [x]
2. False [ ]

**Statement 7**

The choice between “that” and “which” depends solely on the preference of the writer or speaker.

1. True [ ]
2. False [x]