

# 5d -- Relative Clauses 3

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## Defining relative clauses with *whose*, *where*, *when* and *why*

**1 Whose** We use **whose** in relative clauses (in place of *his*, *her*, *their*, etc.) to talk about **possession** (eignarfall). Have a look:

- I have got a friend. **His** brother is an actor.
  - I have got a friend **whose** brother is an actor.
- They are the people. **Their** house caught fire.
  - They are the people **whose** house caught fire.

Do not confuse **whose** and **who's**. who's = who is or who has.

- I've got a friend **who's** at university. (= who is at university)

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## 2 **Where, when and why**

a We can use **where** (for places = þar sem) and **when** (for times = þegar) in relative clauses.

- The factory **where** I work is going to close down.
- Is there a time **when** we can meet?

b After the word **reason**, we can use **why** (or that) in relative clauses.

- Is there a reason **why** you want to leave now?

c We can leave out **when, why** and **that**.

- Is there a time we can meet?
- Is there a reason you want to leave now?

d We can also leave out **where** if we use a **preposition** (forsetning).

- The hotel we stayed **at** was very small.